**New Canada Special Supplement:**

## Workers organise to fight back against industrial poisoning

*BRAVE CANADIANS!*
*Do you love freedom? I know you do. Do you hate oppression? Who dare deny it. Then buckle on your armour and put down the villains that oppress and enslave our country.*
*The Canadian Declaration of Independence, 1837.*

# NEW CANADA

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 4 CANADIAN LIBERATION NEWSPAPER MAY 1975 25¢

COMPLIMENTARY COPY

# Canadian Gypsum workers win two year strike!

CSN
CSN
CSN
CSN
FTQ

After nearly two years of striking, the workers at Canadian Gypsum in Joliette, Quebec are back at work. They won from Gypsum the best agreement ever signed by that company and its workers in Quebec.

The victory for the workers at Canadian Gypsum is a victory for all the Canadian and Quebecois people. They have led the way in building solidarity by winning the support of workers in the Joliette region and in making alliances with their fellow workers in the 4 other Gypsum plants in Quebec. *See page 6 for interview with president of Canadian Gypsum local.*

### What the Canadian Gypsum workers won

**The workers at Gypsum are proud of the contract they wrested from Canadian Gypsum. And with good reason. Here are the principal clauses.**

- **the right to have a seniority list**
- **the implementation of the Rand Formula. The company must collect the union dues from the men. The local must convince new employees to join the union.**
- **scabs must pay union dues but may not take part in union activities.**
- **a 17-month contract**
- **a decrease in compulsory Sunday work**
- **a raise of $1.75/hour for all workers**
- **the rehiring of three fired members of the local executive**
- **the reinstatement of 42 suspended workers**

**The workers at Gypsum return to work, heads held high. It was they who decided to end the strike, not the company.**

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AFL-CIA in Africa ......... p.3
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Canadian Artists Representation boycotts Hart House ............ p.15

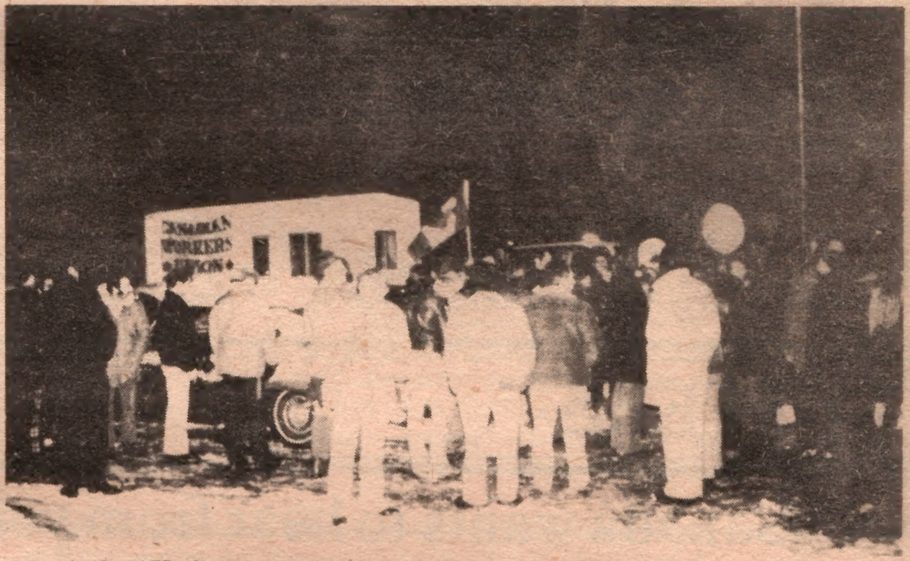
# Canadian Union fights to win at Canron, Frankel

TORONTO: Workers at Canron and Frankel structural steel factories are fighting every step of the way to get the independent Canadian union they want, the Canadian Workers Union (CWU).

The companies, the government, the U.S. unions and all their Canadian front organisations such as the "Canadian" Labour Congress (CLC) and the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) have combined forces against the 625 workers at these two plants, in a frantic effort to stop them from getting the union of their choice.

The struggle really heightened when the CWU submitted membership application cards for a full 75% of the work force at Canron, the larger of the two plants, to the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB).

continued to page 5



March 18, 1975, Canron workers just coming off the afternoon shift hear the news of Claude Browne's suspension. They meet on the spot outside the CWU trailer to decide what action to take.

# Cambodian liberation near

Total victory of the Cambodian liberation struggle is close at hand. The People's Armed Forces (PAF) under the leadership of the National United Front of Cambodia, led by the Cambodian communists, are advancing on many fronts and it is clear that the days of Lon Nol's traitor "government" are numbered.

Ever since Lon Nol and his gang staged their US-backed coup against the lawful government of Prince Sihanouk in 1970, their regime has held power only due to the massive military and other aid from the US imperialists. However, all this aid has proved to no avail against the fierce determined struggle of the Cambodian people to free their country.

Already most of Cambodia has been liberated and Lon Nol's regime holds only the capital, Phnom Penh.

In recent months the only lines of supply to Phnom Penh have been the Mekong River and the US airlift to Pochentong Airport. The former had long been highly hazardous after the PAF liberated areas along the riverbank, making supply barges from South Vietnam vulnerable to attack. On March 6, this route was cut altogether with the fall of the last beachhead on the lower Mekong to the PAF. On April 1, Neak Luong, the last outpost of Lon Nol's forces between Phnom Penh and the South Vietnamese border was liberated.

Now Lon Nol's regime is totally dependent on the airlift for supplies, but this won't last long either. The PAF is now within rocket range of the airport and a number of US supply planes have been hit. In fact, the airlift has had to be suspended a number of times. All attempts by Lon Nol's troops to dislodge the PAF have been futile.

### BULLETIN!

**As *New Canada* goes to press, the one remaining Cambodian city, its capital Phnom Penh is falling.**

With a complete military victory by the Cambodian people in sight, it is not surprising to hear that the US is trying to arrange some sort of "compromise" or even a "coalition government" — anything to save face. The US has persuaded Lon Nol and other arch-traitors to leave the country in the hope that the liberation forces will then compromise with the US-puppet regime in Phnom Penh.

This is just wishful thinking on the part of the U.S. imperialists. How can they expect Lon Nol to hang on to power when they themselves were forced to withdraw their troops from neighbouring Vietnam in 1973 to avoid a military defeat at the hands of the National Liberation Front (NLF). Military aid to US-puppet Thieu hasn't worked any wonders. The NLF is on the offensive and has liberated 15

Continued on page 13

# EDITORIAL

## COUNT THE BALLOTS AT CANRON

Who ever heard of an election where the ballots weren't counted? Where a hearing was held to determine whether the ballots should be counted?

Who ever heard of a tribunal where ⅔ of the judges are expected to be pre-biased against one side? Where one of the judges has publicly campaigned for one side for weeks before the hearing even started?

This is the situation currently faced by the Canadian Workers Union in its application for certification at Canron Eastern Structural Division in Toronto!

### All requirements met

On March 3, 1975, the first day on which it was legal to apply for certification, the CWU applied to the Ontario Labour Relations Board with membership cards for 75% of the 335 workers at Canron.

Only during the last two months of the old union contract, may a new union apply to represent the workers. If the new union has at least 35% of the workers in the plant signed up, then the Board may order a vote. If it has 65%, it may be certified without a vote.

However, the Board's practice is to have a vote whenever there is an incumbent union. The CWU therefore requested a vote be held as soon as possible.

### Ballot box sealed

On March 17, the Labour Board ordered a representation vote held among the Canron workers on April 11. There was little else the Board could do. But the Board showed its class colors (star-spangled) in another way. It ruled that the ballot box be sealed, and that the votes not be counted, at least until after a hearing on April 24.

According to the Ontario Labour Relations Act, the Board has discretion to do this. But the Board's practice is not to do so unless objections are raised by the other parties.

In this case, no objections had been raised by anyone by the date of the Board's decision not to count the ballots! A few days later, however, lawyers for the U.S. union and the company cooked up some technical objections to "justify" the Board's action after the fact.

It should be noted that the CWU has been recognised as a union by the Labour Board in 2 certifications last year. The U.S. union has never been certified at Canron — it has been recognised only by the company.

### Workers angry

At a spirited rally before the vote on April 6, many Canron workers who are members of the CWU were rightly angered by the Board's decision.

"Why seal the ballot box?" they demanded. "When will the votes be counted?" "How do we know they won't try to stuff the ballot box?"

They have good reason to be angry: by virtue of its very composition, the Labour Board is biased against independent Canadian Unions.

One-third of Labour Board members are usually government-appointed lawyers, who are supposedly neutral as between capital and labour.

One-third are corporate representatives usually nominated by the Canadian Manufacturers Association or the Chamber of Commerce, and appointed by the government. By definition, they are biased against unions.

The last third are "labour" representatives nominated by the U.S.-union controlled "Canadian" Labour Congress or by its provincial affiliates, and appointed by government.

They are generally even more biased against independent Canadian unions than the company representatives. The fact is that NOT ONE member of ANY provincial labour board in the whole of Canada is from an independent Canadian union!

As John Lang, Executive Secretary of the Confederation of Canadian Unions, explained in a recent article in the *Right to Strike Newsletter:*

> "It is ludicrous to assume that an independent Canadian union can receive a fair hearing with a labour rep sitting on the Board — like Alex Main or David Archer, for example — who are committed to the maintenance of American unions in Canada."

### Archer, a party to the action

David Archer is a former executive member of the Textile Workers Union of America, and is currently president of the Ontario Federation of Labour — more accurately known as the American Federation of Labour (Ontario) Ltd. — because it is completely controlled by the Yankee unions in Ontario.

Archer has gone far beyond mere bias against the CWU's application at Canron: he has become a party to the action.

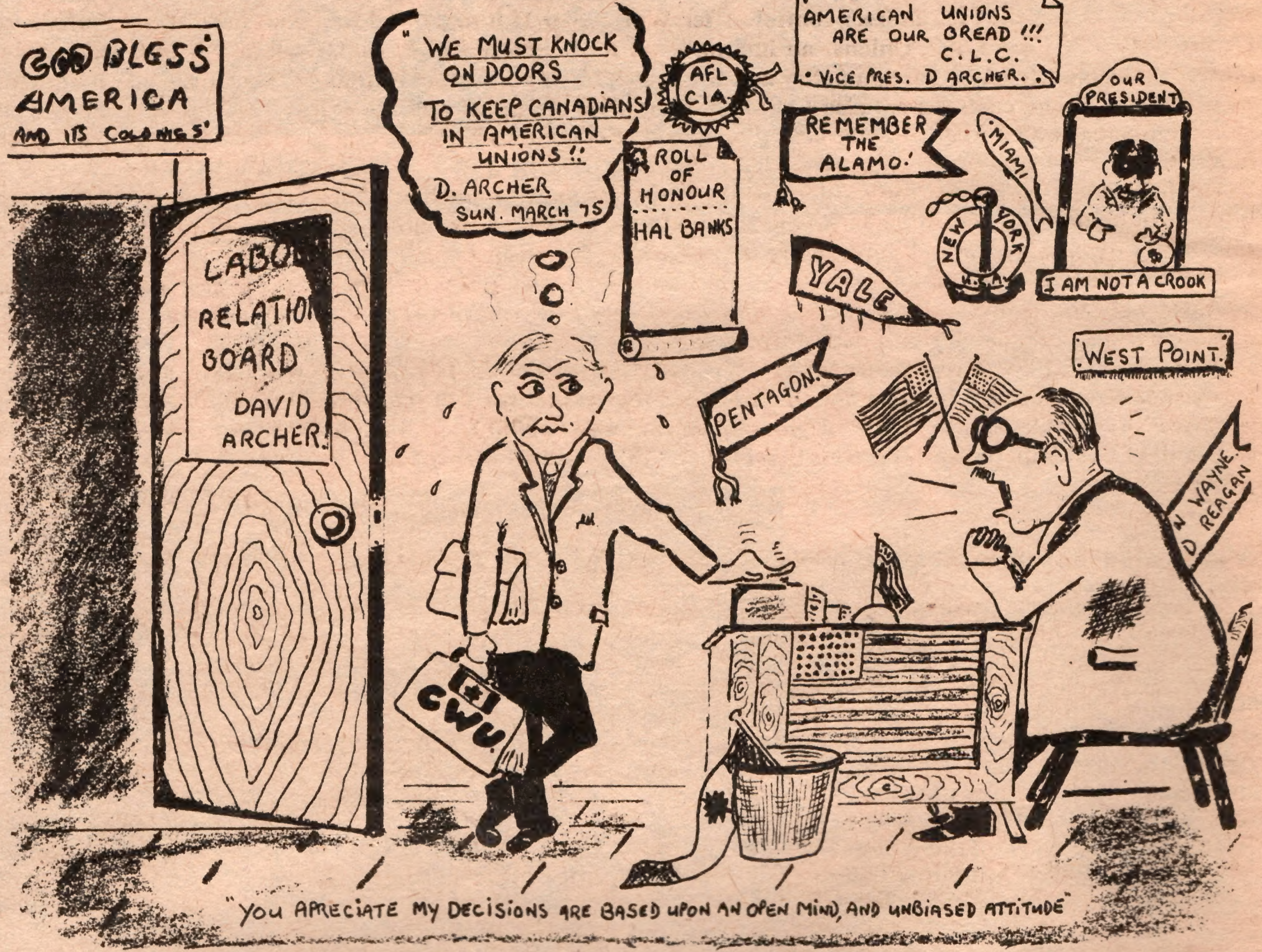
On March 11, Archer was quoted in the *Toronto Sun* as saying: "Our job now is to go knocking on doors to convince the Canron people that they are making a mistake if they join this so-called union." According to the *Sun* report, Archer went to a meeting that day with officials of the Yankee Ironworkers Union to discuss how to defeat the CWU application.

On March 12, Archer's actions were raised with the Minister of Labour at a meeting in Hamilton. Mr. MacBeth agreed that this was not fair and suggested Archer declare a conflict of interest and not vote on the CWU application — as though David Archer was the only biased member of the Board. (Archer, of course, won't be on the three-man panel that hears the CWU case — the Board wouldn't be that gross. But all decisions are made by the Board as a *whole*, not by the panel alone.)

Archer answered this by signing a leaflet which was distributed in the hundreds to Canron workers by officials of the U.S. union. Right beside David Archer's signature is a big headline reading "VOTE IRONWORKERS".

And David Archer will be one of the judges who will decide if the workers ballots are counted! How's that for democracy?

continued to page 12


GOD BLESS AMERICA AND ITS COLONIES'
"WE MUST KNOCK ON DOORS TO KEEP CANADIANS IN AMERICAN UNIONS !! D. ARCHER SUN. MARCH 75
AFL CIA
ROLL OF HONOUR HAL BANKS
AMERICAN UNIONS ARE OUR BREAD !!! C.L.C. VICE PRES. D ARCHER.
OUR PRESIDENT
I AM NOT A CROOK
REMEMBER THE ALAMO'
MIAMI
NEW YORK U.S.A.
YALE
WEST POINT.
PENTAGON.
LABOUR RELATIONS BOARD DAVID ARCHER.
CWU
J WAYNE R REAGAN
"YOU APRECIATE MY DECISIONS ARE BASED UPON AN OPEN MIND, AND UNBIASED ATTITUDE"

by Tom Conlan, National Education Director of the CWU

# LETTERS

## New Canada wants to hear from you

**In order to provide better national coverage of Canadian liberation struggles, we need your help. Everywhere, the Canadian people confront U.S. imperialism and are fighting back. Write to us about what is happening in your trade union, factory, neighbourhood, school or university. Send us letters, clippings, photographs and stories. We need your suggestions and your criticisms too. Help *New Canada* to become a truly national newspaper!**

### True friends of the people

Dear New Canada;

I find myself in the strongest of agreement with the statement New Canada is the only alternative to the bourgeois press, the only publication supporting Canada for Canadians; reflecting the true needs of Canadians and offering a programme to fill those needs.

The importance of the existence of this badly needed, indeed essential literary medium that is in no way controlled by foreign interests (which are quite openly hostile to the development of a liberated Canada) cannot be underestimated.

By the same token, the appearance of an all-Canadian union, democratically representing the Canadian workers is a development that will hasten the victory for the people in their struggle against domination by the imperialists without and their agents within.

Previously, the only possible choice a Canadian worker had was who to be dominated by. That wasn't much of a choice since all imperialist roads lead either to Washington or to the same latitude half way 'round the world (Coca Cola is now in Moscow too).

And most, if not all of the organizations claiming to represent the rights of the working class merely differed in how hard they tried to cover up their true allegiance, for example:

1) The open sellouts (look for McCarthyist clauses in their constitutions)

2) The "Canadian" subsidiaries of U.S. unions (only call Washington if decisions have to be made.)

3) Covert employees of Washington (minimal contact with Washington — said to be masterminded by a man called Pierre Elliot).

However the presence of a true Canadian union, and a press that prints the undoctored facts for the Canadian people will make these compradors past history.

I salute New Canada, the Canadian Workers Union and the Canadian Liberation Movement for their work as true friends of the people.

For independence and socialism,

L.R., Toronto

**Continued on page 4**

NEW CANADA

*Canadian Liberation Newspaper*

Box 6088, Stn. A, Toronto 1, Ont. 368-1165

Subscription rates: 10 issues, 1 year $3.00; 20 issues, 2 years $5.50, 50 issues, 5 years $13.50.

*New Canada* is the monthly paper of the Canadian Liberation Movement, dedicated to building the national liberation struggle; to building an independent and socialist Canada.

Signed articles represent the opinions of their authors and are not necessarily those of the publisher.

We welcome comments, criticisms and communications from our readers. All letters to the editor must be signed and full address given. This information will be withheld at the sender's request.

Articles may be used free of charge by anyone serving the cause of Canadian liberation and the working people in any country, provided credit is given to the author, where applicable and to *New Canada*.

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# Document reveals U.S. use of AFL-CIA in Africa

**Control of the working class movement is an integral part of U.S. Imperialism. In Canada workers are subject to direct colonial domination. A majority of organized workers are in U.S. unions. However, in other parts of the world, the U.S. depends on indirect control. After World War II it organized and bankrolled the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, an international trade union centre, comprised of national trade union centres that supported U.S. foreign policy and the principles of anti-communism and free enterprise. Frequently these national union centres were also U.S.-led; many were set up as an "alternative" to the indigenous trade union movement which frequently supported socialism or communism and the fight of the Soviet people against fascism.**

**The following excerpts are from a document entitled "Annex to Cabinet Paper on Policy in Africa". It was brought to light by the Trade Union Congress of Nigeria in 1960, first published in a book entitled *The Great Conspiracy against Africa* and reprinted in *The CIA and American Labour* p. 105ff.**

**The document is a labour supplement to what is apparently a general British intelligence report on Africa intended only for British cabinet members. It notes that "this draft awaits final amendments, elisions, and additions from... the intelligence departments..."**

**Dated Dec. 12, 1959, it reports that the recent Sixth Congress of the ICFTU "was marked by a serious conflict between our trade union delegation and the American representatives over the future of the trade union movement in Africa". It provides an invaluable insight into the rationale behind U.S. union involvement in foreign countries on behalf of U.S. imperialism. It reveals that former U.S. president Richard Nixon was one of the shapers of these policies.**

### unions, a brake on unchecked national movements

"The gradual abdication of direct British and other European rule in Africa in favour of measures to establish direct independence, makes it all the more necessary to maintain our African connections by the development of non-political means. In these conditions, the role of trade unionism and, therefore, the role of the ICFTU, have acquired a new and vital importance for us.

"This has been only partially foreseen as regards Africa when the ICFTU was founded. Recent developments there have greatly increased the importance of the unions as alternative instruments of Western influence and especially as a brake on unchecked political and national movements.

"Since it is difficult to accuse unions of serving colonial ends; with their aid it should be possible to establish harmonious relations with the new social and political institutions of Africa now being created, which we hope to maintain after any political changes. Trade union help will be needed to check irresponsible nationalization and to maintain control of the key sectors of the economy in the newly created African states.

"During the negotiations which preceded the Congress the State Department and the American trade unions made no real secret of the fact that participation of the American trade unions in the ICFTU would be used to further the developing political and economic interests of the USA in Africa.

"Reports and information on the recent secret conference of American ambassadors and senior officials in Lorenco Marques (Mozambique) showed that general American policy toward Africa is based on decisions adopted in connection with a secret policy report written by (then Vice-president-ed) Mr. Richard Nixon after a visit to Africa in 1957. The more recent document prepared by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (published as Study No. 4) also confirms this... The aim seems to be to take advantage of the difficult situation in which the United Kingdom and other European powers find themselves and replace their interests and influence by direct U.S. penetration in Africa using the machinery of the ICFTU and American contacts that have been built up with African leaders for this purpose."

### Nixon: America is heir to Africa's future

*Nixon is quoted as saying that the Western colonial crisis presented both an opportunity and a challenge to the U.S. and urged increased diplomatic and investment activity in Africa.*

"It must be recognized that from the political point of view the European powers in Africa, including Britain and France, are irrevocably tarred with their colonial past. America is heir to no such past in Africa. It is that fact that makes her heir to Africa's future... America's interests in the future are so great as to justify us in not hesitation even to assist the departure of colonial powers in Africa. If we can win native opinion by this process the future of America in Africa will be assured.

### exploit the struggle against colonialism

*Joseph Satterwaite, then Assistant Secretary of State for African affairs, in his speech at Lorenco Marques, is reported as saying:*

"We should do our best to influence the African peoples. This could be successfully done by exploiting the struggle against European colonialism. It is difficult for you as government officials to attack powers which are allies in Nato. But there are other ways of doing this and one of them is through the AFL/CIO contacts in the African labour movement."

### labour leaders openly execute CIA policy

*The document notes AFL-CIO president George Meany's report to the AFL/CIO Convention earlier in 1959 urging the "Strengthening" of diplomatic missions and of increasing the labour attache corps and exchanges of delegates." It notes that in the former British colony of Ghana, Britain had only 6 representatives, the Americans, 100. The document continues:*

"The Americans are not interested in the creation in Africa of genuine trade unions as we know them. America has no labour party. Her trade union movement has been built from above by highly paid union bosses and not from below as in Great Britain and in Europe. Her trade union leaders are isolated from the rank and file and have little or no experience in trade union work as we know it. Indeed, so far as they do have an understanding of our form of trade union work, they condemn it as 'socialistic'. As a result the American trade union leaders such as Meany, Reuther and Dubinsky can afford directly and openly to execute governmental and particularly CIA policy.

"The American trade union leaders have therefore always sought to build up the trade union movement in Africa on the basis of privileged leaders. Their chief weapon, following American practice, is the bribery of anti-Communist and anti-Colonial elements in the trade union and nationalist movement. In agreement with the State Department and the CIA the Americans have provided secret undercover support for such leaders as Tom Mboya, the general secretary of the Kenya Federation of Labour and the chairman of the ICFTU Area Committee for East, Central and Southern Africa.

"In fact we have reason to believe there is an understanding between him (Tom Mboya) and the Americans and the whole emphasis on the plan for autonomy of the African Regional Organization is indeed to be used by the Americans as an indirect means for spreading their influence in Africa."

Liberation fighters in Guinea-Bissau. The struggle for freedom in Africa started in 1963 in Guinea-Bissau. Photo: A Luta Continua.

## Canadian liberation is part of the liberation of all the world's people

### Portuguese people will smash revisionists' plots

The gains of the Portuguese people's revolution which overthrew the fascist regime of Marcello Caetano last year are being threatened by two rival reactionary blocs. On March 11 of this year there was an attempted coup by Portuguese fascists organised by an emigre group based in Spain. This coup attempt was quickly crushed by the Portuguese army. Now a new threat to the revolution looms from the revisionist "Communist" Party, led by Alvaro Cunhal.

The revisionists have taken advantage of the abortive coup to increase their representation in the provisional government and to form a "Military Revolutionary Council" with the Armed Forces' Movement. The revisionists have thereby tried to present themselves as "defenders of the revolution". The truth, however, is something quite different.

Soviet social-imperialists (socialist in words, imperialist in deeds) are very eager to get a naval base in Portugal and turn the country into one of its colonies like Czechoslovakia, for example. The Portuguese revisionists have been trying to get the provisional government to grant the Soviets the naval base they crave.

However, the revisionists realize that the Portuguese people are far from enthusiastic about this. They suffered enough under the fascist regime of Salazar and Caetano, which was backed by U.S. imperialism to give up the fruits of the revolution for a social-fascist regime of Cunhal's revisionist party, backed by Soviet social-imperialism. The shaky position of the revisionists is revealed both by the recent losses of their supporters in the elections to the soldiers' councils, and by the banning of the Movement for the Reorganisation of the Party of the Proletariat (MRPP), a Marxist-Leninist organisation.

The MRPP, was first barred from participating in the elections, scheduled for April 12, on the grounds that it "might disrupt them". The MRPP immediately struck back. The next day there was a demonstration of 8,000 MRPP members and supporters denouncing the phoney "Military Revolutionary Council" and the revisionists. The revisionist-backed Council, plainly terrified of the people's support of the MRPP, outlawed it altogether the next week. The right-wing Christian Democrats on the other hand, while barred from the elections, are otherwise not interfered with. It is easy to see that the revisionists are afraid of the Portuguese people.

#### M.R.P.P. for liberation struggles

The MRPP, if we recall, was in favour of immediate independence for all of Portugal's colonies (e.g. Angola) and an immediate withdrawal of Portuguese troops from them. The revisionists, on the other hand, wanted a gradual withdrawal, no doubt to protect the Portuguese fascist landlords and capitalists there from the just reprisals of the Africans whom they had oppressed for centuries.

The policy of the Council and of the revisionists in banning the MRPP is a policy of weakness. The Portuguese people will certainly smash the revisionists' plots.

# LETTERS

Continued from page 2

## Freedom of the press in prison

*The following is a copy of a letter which our correspondent wrote to A. Therien, Commissioner of Federal Penitentiaries.*

Dear Sir:

Want a directive from your office advising your staff in general, and S. Scrutton, assistant director (socialization) in particular, to discontinue their confiscation of reading material arriving here at the prison addressed to me.

Some of the publications are:

1) *New Canada* (which I have a paid subscription)
2) *Transition* (magazine)
3) *High Times* (magazine)
4) *People's Canada Daily News* (newspaper)
5) *Outlaw* — united prisoners union paper
ALSO — letters and material from various people and organizations.

I don't agree to your employees deciding what I can or cannot read, nor to them setting themselves above our laws in relationship to freedom of the press. When any political organization that is a legally recognized political party in Canada is having their publications confiscated, then the person or persons doing the confiscation have decided to take upon themselves an arbitrary power which is reminiscent of the Nazi era as regards censorship of the press (FREEDOM OF THE PRESS).

I want this stopped, and a return to me of all confiscated reading matter.

I remain,
R.L.,
prisoner, Millhaven

## U.S. Imperialist grab in Manitoba

Dear New Canada,

Enclosed is my cheque for the renewal of my subscription. Please send it to me at my new address. Out here in Manitoba, the U.S. imperialists have been grabbing up our farmlands in very large amounts in certain areas of the province.

The recent hearings on the structure of land ownership in the province have shown that the various vested interests and most of the representatives of the two old-line capitalist parties to be nothing but traitors who would rather see U.S. or other foreign interests own our farmland rather than even the modest amount of government involvement which the Agricultural Minister, Sam Yeskiw, would undertake with the proposed landbank. Yeskiw seems to be one of the few members of the government who would take any measure to hold back U.S. imperialism.

We have seen the disgusting sell-outs which Sydney Green (with the pushing of the main spokesman for the U.S. labor unions in Manitoba, Len Stevens) has tried to put on the workers of Flyer Industries, which is being sabotaged from the inside by management, which was appointed by the Manitoba Development Corporation under the former Tory Government of Roblin, which was responsible for the Churchill Forest Industries Scandal and by interests which want to see the whole of the Canadian bus market given to the U.S. monopoly of General Motors.

By the way, in future issues you should be exposing one of U.S. imperialism's main backers here — the R.C.M.P. which has the closest links with the C.I.A. and also appear to be directly involved in drug trafficking and planting false evidence on progressive people in all parts of Canada. Best of luck.

Sincerely,
I.S.O., Manitoba

## Canadian colonial justice strikes again

Dear New Canada;

Canadian colonial justice has struck again.

On Feb. 3rd Ed DeArmon, a Yankee basketball coach at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto, was convicted of common assault — in spite of the attempts of the defence, Crown Attorney (Chorney), and judge to get him off. DeArmon assaulted Chris Faiers of CLM while Chris was selling New Canada outside a Ryerson building in September 1974.

Chorney was the same Crown who, in December, prosecuted Les MacKinnon of CLM for trespassing at Ryerson. MacKinnon was charged while handing out a leaflet asking for witnesses the day after DeArmon attacked Chris.

### Crown lies to Faiers

The first incident in this mockery of justice occured before the trial even began, when Chorney lied to Chris, saying that it was too late to introduce medical evidence and that the original, more serious charge (assault causing bodily harm) had to be reduced. When contacted about the case in January, Chorney had said that all evidence could be produced the day of the trial, including that showing that DeArmon had broken Chris' nose. Later in the trial even the judge admitted that the original charge should have been prosecuted — all this after the deal was safely locked up.

When I was on the stand, verifying photographs that I had made of Chris, Chorney continually made faces at me while he asked questions, completely exposing his hostility to me and the case.

### few questions asked

During the remainder of the charade, Chorney asked the minimum number of questions that he could, especially while cross-examining defence witnesses, failing completely to explore the many inconsistencies in their testimony and even their relationship to DeArmon. One of the witnesses just happened to be the girlfriend of DeArmon's son.

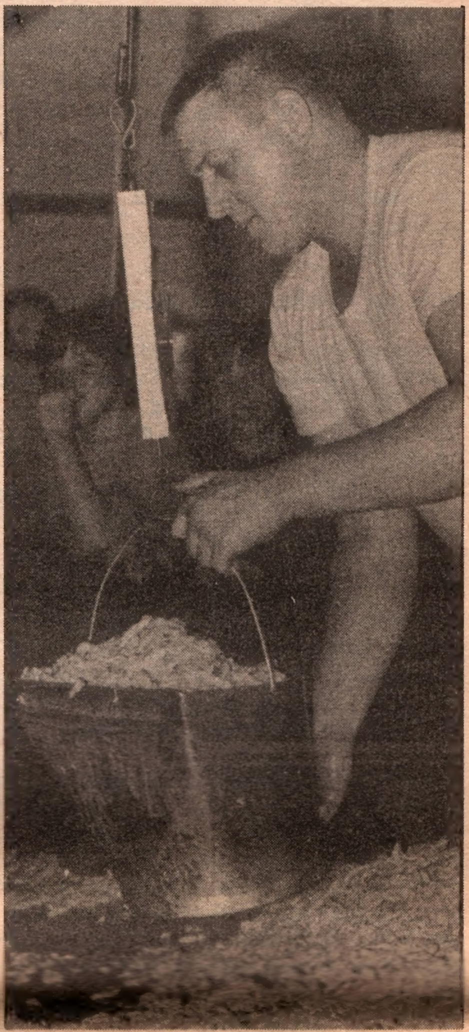
The final ridiculous act was the forty-five seconds it took Chorney to sum up his case, and upon the conviction, when the defence pleaded for an absolute discharge, he was more than eager to go along with it.

For his part, the judge (Morris) failed to fulfill his function by not asking, for himself, obvious questions of witnesses that Chorney refused to ask. And in sentence Morris didn't even consider the serious evidence that earlier had led to his comment that the charge should have been the much more serious one. He gave DeArmon an absolute discharge.

Hacks like Chorney must be rooted out, and the sell-out colonial system of injustice destroyed so that it no longer serves the thugs of Yankee imperialism and the traitors who lick their boots.

Canada will be free, but we must organize and fight.

D.H., Toronto



A worker weighing cheese curds at the Union Star Co-op, one of the few Canadian cheese factories left. Photo: Jon Penner

## Town council sells out to Kraft

Dear New Canada:

I really liked the article in the March New Canada about the cheese factories. But, you forgot to mention that Kraft, which is squeezing out all the small Canadian co-ops, was *given* the land to build on and also *free taxes* for a period of *ten years* — compliments of the town council. At that time, the council included W.S. Elliott, Harold Ault and others in Ingleside township of Ossinbrooke.

A.N., Toronto.
formerly of Ingleside, Ontario.

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Enclosed is a donation of ________.

# PEOPLE'S RECIPES

**People's Recipes will be a regular feature in New Canada. Because Canadians come from many diverse areas, we find a wealth of fine local cooking arising from local foods and conditions. Try our moderately priced recipes. Send your favourite recipe to new Canada, Box 6088, Station A, Toronto 1, Ontario..**

## Yogurt

Yogurt is a nutritionally excellent food. It is a good source of calcium, which can only be absorbed into the body in the presence of acids. Sugar which is only digested in a alkaline medium prevents the uptake of calcium into the system.

Mix in a large pitcher or a blender:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | cups warm water | 1 | large can evaporated whole milk |
| 1½ | cups non-instant skim milk powder | 3 | tbsp. yogurt |

Pour into glass jars and let sit in warm water or warm oven at 105° to 120°F for 4 hours or until it reaches a thick pudding texture. Temperatures over 120°F will kill the bacteria and the yogurt will not thicken. Cool temperatures will only make the reaction slower. Cool the yogurt as soon as it thickens to prevent it from becoming too acidic.

Fresh or tinned fruit, honey and frozen orange juice can be added to make tasty desserts. Children like yogurt and orange juice concentrate frozen into popsicles. Yogurt can also be used to replace sour cream on baked potatoes and in other cooking for low fat diets.

# CWU organising at Frankel Steel

TORONTO: Following immediately after an impressive application for certification to represent the workers at Canron Eastern Structural Division in Rexdale, the Canadian Workers Union is organising at Frankel Steel in Toronto's west end.

The struggle at Frankel is more difficult for the Canadian union than the struggle at Canron. A significant minority of the Frankel workers are Ukrainians who fled to Canada just after World War II. A number of them were collaborators with the Nazis in Europe, and many of them are opposed to any union, and especially one that is actually controlled by workers as the CWU is.

Frankel management has obviously hired its work force selectively and scientifically, to keep the many more progressive Frankel workers divided and opposed by these reactionary elements.

The Yankee Ironworkers union has further strengthened both companies' hands, by combining the workers of both plants into the composite Local 743 which has the effect of placing them under perpetual trusteeship.

During the Canron strike two years ago, for instance, both Frankel management and the Ironworkers' hacks openly encouraged Frankel workers to work over time on jobs that Canron had switched to Frankel, while Canron workers walked the picket line. And the reactionaries among the Ukrainian workers took the lead in insisting on over-time, and doing this scab work against the Canron workers.

### CWU rallies force

But the Canadian Workers Union is turning this weakness into a strength. In the CWU, the progressive forces at Frankel are being encouraged to come forward by the example and help of the Canron workers.

So the company's tactics against the CWU have been back-firing. In the early stages of CWU organising, Frankel management tried to buy the workers off, and to make the Ironworkers look good. They gave a 5% increase in wages, supposedly to meet the 12% cost of living increase that was current at that time.

This dodge didn't work. For one thing, Frankel workers recognized that the 5% did not even cover what they had lost in their last sell-out contract. They also saw right away that the reason for the raise was the pressure that was coming from CWU organising not the Yankee union.

### company goons attack worker

In March, after the Canron application was made, Frankel management began to get frantic. They hired a crew of plant guards, equipped with walkie-talkies, and a goon squad to sit outside the plant in cars whenever CWU organisers distributed leaflets there.

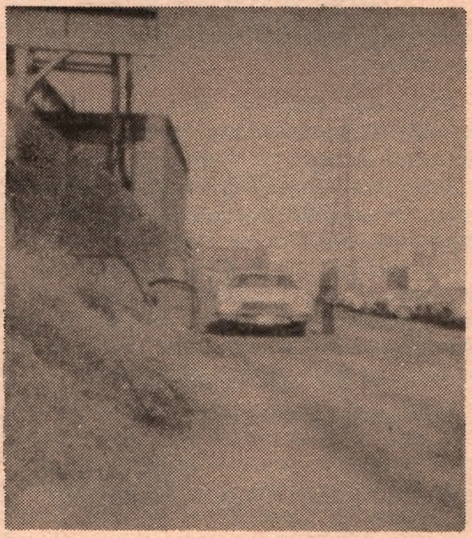
On March 25, the real purpose of the goon squad became clear. Alexander Duthie, a purchasing agent with over 15 years service, found one of the goons parked in his usual parking space. When Duthie got out of his car to ask the goon to move, this vicious bully (over 6 ft. tall, and weighing over 200 lbs.) grabbed Duthie (who is over 50 years old) and started to punch him.

It took 4 or 5 Frankel workers to pull the goon off Duthie. The company agreed that this particular goon should be removed, but obviously intended simply to replace him with another one. The Canadian Workers Union immediately demanded that the company reveal the goon's identity, press charges against him, and remove all of the goon squad at once.

But the CWU also pointed out that this vicious attack showed the real purpose of the goon squad. Duthie is not a CWU organiser, and no-one was distributing leaflets that morning anyway. The goon squad was really hired at Frankel to try to scare the workers, to intimidate them from joining or openly supporting the CWU.

### support growing stronger

Again, this tactic is backfiring. Many Frankel workers, angered at the shameful attack on Duthie, are stronger than ever in support of the CWU. Even those who are opposed to the CWU can't apologize for such an attack, and workers who haven't yet decided can see clearly what the alliance of the U.S. union and the company means.



Workers at Frankel Steel must counter the company's goon squad, hired to scare them from the CWU but now, more than ever convincing them of the need for a democratic Canadian union.

As we go to press, the CWU is preparing to apply for certification to represent the workers at Frankel Steel as well.●

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## Canadian Union fights to win at Canron, Frankel

continued from page 1

This showed the tremendous support for the CWU at Canron. In fact, support for the Canadian union is between 80 and 90% of the 335 workers there.

Immediately after the application went in, the Yankee unions and their friends in the companies and the government started to draw their forces together.

First the United Steelworkers of America (USA) tried to come to the aid of the rotten U.S.-run "International" Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Ironworkers, the Yankee union that has been mis-representing both plants for over 18 years.

The Steelworkers called a meeting, to which only three Canron workers showed up. The USA rightly concluded that the support for the Canadian union was almost unanimous at Canron, and scrambled over to the CLC and the OFL offices for a joint meeting of all U.S. union forces in the Toronto area.

The attacks on the CWU by Canron only serve to build greater solidarity among the workers, as this spontaneous meeting at midnight in support of suspended workers Claude Browne shows, March 18, 1975.

### Archer attacks CWU

The most prominent spokesman among the Canadian traitors who support U.S. unions in our country was David Archer, who is both president of the Ontario Federation of Labour and a member of the Ontario Labour Relations Board.

Despite the fact that he sits on the Board which is supposed to decide the issue between the Yankee union and the CWU, Archer declared publicly his support for a door-to-door campaign, if necessary, to stop the CWU. (See New Canada's editorial, page 2, for more on the Labour Board and Canadian unions.)

Ralph Ortleib, regional organisation director for the CLC in Toronto, openly admitted that "the CWU is trying to create a base. We could have quite a struggle with them if they got that base." These hacks for the Yankee unions are terrified of the real support for Canadian unions that is growing stronger every day among Canadian workers.

### scum collects around Ironworkers

To maintain their high-paying jobs (over $50,000 a year each for the Ironworkers' regional officers alone), and to maintain control of Canada's workers by U.S. unions, these traitors will go to any lengths.

Their next move was to bribe Gino (Venduto) De Santis, the former National Chairman of the CWU, to join their ranks. "Venduto" is an Italian word that means sell-out and traitor, and that has now become this traitor's name.

The evidence for this sell-out is conclusive. He resigned from his position without warning, and explained that it was too much work for him, when asked.

But Venduto also resigned as a member! No-one resigns as a member just because of over-work as an officer.

Furthermore, he resigned, not merely by a letter of resignation, but by affidavit. It is unheard of for anyone to resign a position by affidavit: the only reason anyone needs an affidavit is to satisfy someone else, who wants to be able to prove that they resigned — in a court, or at the Labour Board.

When asked, Venduto claimed that he "couldn't remember" the name of the lawyer who had drawn up the affidavit, or where his office was. It is clear that the reason he resigned as a member and as an officer of the union by affidavit is because whoever paid him off wants to make sure that Venduto doesn't go back on his word. Nobody trusts a traitor, not even the rats who bought him.

### Canron workers rally

Faced with this monstrous betrayal, the workers at Canron rallied to stand up for their union, and for Canada. They had already elected a new local executive at their last local meeting, with fitter Claude Bernardi as chairman, helper Ibor Briones as vice-chairman, and crane operator Ed Taubert as secretary.

Now they worked together in the plant to completely isolate this scum, Venduto. CWU National Education Director Tom Conlan called him 'Venduto' to his face, and confronted him with the evidence. Some workers threw pennies at him, other simply refused to talk to him. The only people he can talk to in the plant are the few Ironworkers hacks and stooges, who are despised by all the other workers there. The Canron workers were successfully turning a bad thing into a good thing, by isolating and attacking this traitor.

### Board seals ballot box

Meanwhile the Ontario Labour Relations Board had been forced to act on the large number of membership application cards that the CWU had submitted for Canron. They set the date of April 11 as the day for the vote between the CWU and the Yankee union.

But then the Board ruled that the ballot box would be sealed. This means that the votes will not be counted right away, not until after the hearing is concluded. In other cases, such as the Canadian Union of Operating Engineers at Stanley Steel 3 years ago in Hamilton, the Board actually refused to count the workers ballots — and ordered them destroyed.

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## CWU fights for contract at Burlington Golf & Country Club

**The Canadian Workers Union struggle for a contract at the Burlington Golf and Country Club entered a new phase this month.**

After more than 16 weeks on the picket line, because they were locked out by the club, the CWU Burlington local decided to temporarily withdraw the picket line at the club entrance in order to bring the club to the bargaining table. Although it is probably illegal to do so, the club had refused to negotiate while the line was up.

The golfing season normally opens in about a month's time. The workers felt that, with things quiet at the club now, it would be a good time to negotiate. If agreement can be reached now — good. If not, then the struggle will come to a head when the club is most vulnerable.

### contract proposal insult

The club took great pains to produce an offer they thought the workers would not even consider. The club's attitude was take it or leave it, and they tried to provoke union negotiators into walking out of the negotiations. The negotiating team, however, refused to be provoked.

The club refused to make a wage offer. They demanded the unrestricted right to contract work out, they demanded a one-year probationary clause suggesting the contract could never be terminated, or re-negotiated without management consent. The club also refused to rehire any of the locked-out workers.

At the 3 bargaining sessions, the union made concessions on a number of points, but the club only agreed to a few changes in wording.

The workers are still fighting back, and the matter is expected to come to a head soon. A conciliation officer has been appointed to assist in the negotiations.

The Canadian Workers Union is prepared to do whatever is necessary to win a decent contract.●

*Canadian Gypsum workers win two year strike!*

# After the strike, a programme of action!

**Translated from Bulletin Populaire, Feb. 20, 1975.**

**After 640 days of striking, the 80 workers at Canadian Gypsum at Joliette returned to work on February 14.**

**After two years of struggle, of resistance, of support and unity, what does the future look like for Gypsum workers?**

**We met with Denis Belanger, a worker at Gypsum and president of the local, who spoke of work being carried on in the plant and of alliances built with workers in Joliette and elsewhere.**

*How was it the first day back at work?*

It was a little hard; after two years starting working again was hard. But the men are proud of the contract because it is a first in Québec. It is the best agreement that Gypsum has signed in Québec and I think we have a right to be proud of it, especially after two years of striking.

*There must have been a different mood before the strike and after?*

A damn difference. Yes. It's a different world. On the one hand the men are much more solid, united you might say, and the bosses are more cautious. It's clear that after 21 months of striking nobody's going to fool around. It's going to be necessary for the company to respect the contract and the men too. If things aren't going right, we might as well stop work immediately.

When you've been on strike for two years and you win, you're stronger than before.

*For the next year, do you have a special programme planned for the union?*

Yes, and on several main points. First we drew up a new constitution for the local. Now, we have an enlarged executive with 35 workers on it. To give you an example, it's like the Committee of 40 at Firestone. Even with a good contract there are other problems to solve.

**"There were more than 50 walkouts to support our demands. That's solidarity in a city like Joliette."**

*Is that why you have the Committee of 35?*

A centralised executive gives a lot of responsibility to a few men. During the strike, we had meetings every Thursday and that gave us a chance to share the responsibilities.

The Committee of 35 is going to deal with several things: safety, grievances, education and time-off. We're also going to study the economics of production in the shop. It will allow us to better calculate the profits of the company.

*In the course of the strike, we heard of exchanges between the five Gypsum plants in Québec. What's become of this now?*

The objective of these meetings is to be able to negotiate jointly, with the same demands at the same time. That will give us much more strength and unity.

What we want to do is to exchange information with the men in all five shops. We started by talking about a joint newsletter between the five locals so that the men can understand what is happening outside of their own shop. Already we know that our conditions are similar and that the more discussion we have among the five shops, the more solidarity there will be.

It's obviously a long term project but it fits the objectives of the group here.

*There was a lot of support from the Common Front of the Joliette workers. How do you see it working in the future?*

For us here at Gypsum, the support shown by the Common Front had a very positive effect. The support received from unions and other groups of the region helped us; we felt solidarity with other Joliette workers, and also with other groups who were opposed to the multinational companies.

Also, we must not forget the financial support. It's quite something when you think that we withstood two years of strike with hardly a financial problem.

It drove the government crazy! How many times did they call us up and tell us to stop the walkouts in the region? There were more than 50 walkouts to support our demands. That's solidarity with the people in a city like Joliette!

This is continuing. Take for example the exchanges we had between the workers at Firestone, Great Lakes and Gypsum. That's good because it keeps up the unity among the workers.

*Several of the Gypsum workers participated during the strike with the Comité de solidarité avec les luttes ouvrieres (CSLO). Are these alliances being followed up?*

Yes and we have decided to participate regularly with the CSLO.

We must say that the Comité helped us a lot during the whole strike by distributing leaflets and organising demonstrations. In discussion with members of the Comité we could see the solutions that worked for other groups of workers.

For example there was contact between the workers at Québec-Carton, United Aircraft, Penman's and St. Lawrence Fertilizers (Noranda Co.) at Valleyfield. For us it's important because we see the problems that other unions face. If you like, it breaks the isolation of the strikers. You meet the guys and have discussions with them.

It gives us a chance to fight in solidarity rather than in isolation.

*Finally, your goals, they're to develop the work of the local here but also alliances with other groups of workers?*

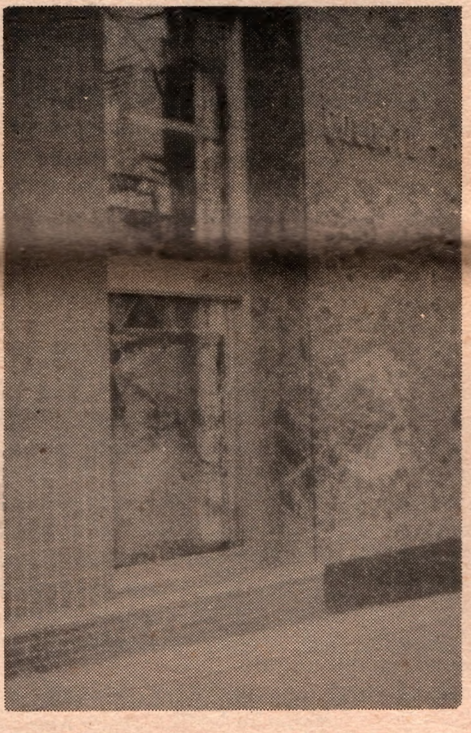
With the strike, we knew that it was necessary to re-organise.

When multinational companies like Gypsum face a small group, it's easy for them. But when these companies face a whole striking force, it will be quite different.

GYPSUM
-MARTI
CAGS DE LA

One of the many demonstrations held during the 2 year strike of the Canadian Gypsum workers.

# Colgate workers build unity in 10 week strike for union security, wages



Broken windows at the Colgate plant in Toronto, after a 10 week strike.

TORONTO — The 330 workers at the Colgate-Palmolive plant in the East End of Toronto fought a ten-week strike to get wage parity with workers at Lever Brothers, another U.S. soap company organized by the same U.S. "international" Chemical Workers Union, just a few blocks away.

After almost three months of struggle in which the workers organized mass pickets and considerable damage to the Yankee company's property, they settled for a 27 month contract with a pay increase of 33.6%.

The workers are proud of the unity and fighting spirit of their local, but mad at the lack of support and disorganization they got from the U.S. union. Their new contract leaves them 96.6¢ below the Lever rate right now, and as of June they will still be 40¢ below Lever Brothers. After 7 weeks on strike, the local voted against a settlement recommended by the union for a slightly higher increase over a 30 month contract — they held out for union security, the Rand formula (which they won) and the shortest contract they could get for the power to force the company to raise wages to keep up with inflation.

Many of the workers have learned that their biggest obstacle in the fight for a decent wage is U.S. control of their union. The Chemical Workers Union is the same union that is opposing the struggle to force the two worst East-End poisoners, Canada Metal and Johns-Manville, to clean up for the health and safety of the workers and community.

Copies of *New Canada* sold on the picket line by members of the Toronto East Club of the Canadian Liberation Movement were enthusiastically received and workers were most interested in the stories about the struggle to organize an independent Canadian union at Canron.

One of the workers, speaking for many in the local, told *New Canada:* "This strike has taught us that we have to depend on ourselves. The U.S. union didn't even give us a strike trailer. We kept warm for 3 months over an open fire near the plant gate and at a neighbouring worker's home. We have to fight to get the contracts at Colgate and Lever Brothers to come up at the same time so we can have some real power over these U.S. companies. We have to keep our dues here in Canada. We need an independent Canadian union so next time we can win."●

## *Canadian Union fights to win at Canron, Frankel*

continued from page 5

So the workers at Canron and Frankel and supporters of the CWU everywhere, are going to have to fight to get the ballots counted. In a colony like Canada, we have to fight simply for the basic democratic right to count the ballots cast by workers for the union of their choice.

### smear campaigns

The latest attacks from the Ironworkers and their Yankee union cohorts have been attempts to smear the CWU and its leaders as "Communists". The U.S. union has sent out copies of one of the reviews of a book by CWU National Vice-Chairman Barry Lord, *The History of Painting in Canada: Toward a People's Art.* Although Barry Lord's book supports an art that serves the Canadian people, just as he also supports a union that serves Canadian workers, the Yankee union sent out the red-baiting Robert Fulford review.

The Ironworkers are also calling the CWU an "arm" of the Canadian Liberation Movement (CLM), the only political organisation in Canada that is fighting for independent Canadian unions. They can't imagine a union that is an arm of its members!

### workers defeat attacks

These attacks also will not work. In the first place, the workers at Canron and Frankel know very well that the CWU constitution rules out any affiliation with any political party, but provides for a full democratic political life within the union, with a clause on politics that outlines an annual local meeting at which workers will decide, after hearing the speakers, where each of their political contributions (15 cents a month) will go. This is the most democratic political section of any union constitution in Canada.

The workers also know that the CWU demands and respects the right of workers to belong to any political group. And they also know that Barry Lord and other CWU leaders whom the Ironworkers are trying to smear are all working hard to build the independent Canadian union. Further, they are aware that the CWU constitution calls for elections of officers each year by referendum and the right to recall at any time.

A full-time CWU officer, according to the constitution, can never make more than the average of the wages of all the members of the union. This may not suit sell-outs like Venduto, or the high-paid vultures of the Ironworkers and other Yankee unions, but it suits the workers at Canron and Frankel and thousands of other Canadian factories just fine!

So the forces are lined up. All the scum is collecting around the Ironworkers and the companies — the U.S.A., the CLC and OFL hacks, sell-outs like Venduto, and supposedly "impartial" Labour Board officials like Archer.

But on the other side, the vast majority of the workers at Canron and Frankel are supported by the Canadian people, and by all those individuals and organisations that support an independent Canada, liberated from U.S. control. The Canadian Workers Union will win the vote, and with this support will get the ballots counted so that the workers can have the union of their choice. Then the CWU can move on to negotiate a contract at Canron, and go on to organising more widely, as the fight for Canadian unions sweeps across this country.●

### New Canada Special Supplement:

# Workers organise to fight back against industrial poisoning

## Canadian Liberation Movement Statement on Industrial Poisoning

**The struggle against pollution in Canada is inseparable from the struggle against U.S. imperialism. Canada's largest pollutors are the imperialists who own the vast majority of our resources and our manufacturing. Much of the pollution in our country is the result of U.S. industrial poisoning of joint waterways. Further as anti-pollution forces in the U.S. gain strength, the poisoners will more and more move their dirty factories and refineries to Canada. Our sell-out governments on all levels have collaborated with the poisoners and conspired to protect them.**

**When Canada has been liberated the Canadian people will be able to determine the location of our industries, the amount of resources and products required for our national life and the necessary safeguards for the health of our people.**

**We will take as our guideline the general principles incorporated in the 1973 decision of the Japanese court regarding the Chisso Chemical Company, namely: that the burden of proof must be on the company that it is not endangering public health; that a company must take preventive action whenever there is some doubt as to the safety of its operations; that meeting government standards does not absolve a company from negligence when it endangers the public health.**

**It is the aim of the CLM to unite the Canadian people on the widest possible basis to fight the poisoners, to preserve jobs and to protect the health of our people in their work place and in their communities. All costs of cleaning up this pollution must be born by the poisoners and those who are harmed must be compensated by them.**

# CLM criticises, Environmental Hearing Board

TORONTO — "The lead companies have to be hit and they have to be hit hard. They're vicious. They're utterly unprincipled. They couldn't care less how many people they kill or permanently injure. It's of absolutely no interest to them as long as they can make money."

In a tough, strongly worded presentation to the Ontario government's Environmental Hearing Board on February 26, Canadian Liberation Movement Chairman Gary Perly put forward the CLM's position on lead poisoning.

In the presentation, Perly disclosed:

- that Walter Fox, a lawyer retained by the CLM on behalf of a group of East Toronto parents, was scheduled to meet that afternoon with a representative of the provincial Attorney General's office to discuss the laying of criminal charges against persons employed by Canada Metal Co., who conducted unethical and illegal blood lead tests on neighbourhood children.
- that CLM had received information from Canada Metal workers the day before, that all but one of the fans in the Roto Cast foundry division of Canada Metal had been turned off, in order to keep lead emissions *inside* the factory. This was done to lower the lead level in the surrounding community, especially during the current blood tests. One worker described the conditions in the foundry as being "like a gas chamber."

The Environmental Hearing Board, a collection of career civil servants, respectable doctors and retired businessmen which usually deals with applications for sewage disposal sites, was directed by the Tory government to hold hearings into lead poisoning in Metropolitan Toronto and to report on its findings. The Canadian Liberation Movement and Gary Perly labelled these hearings "a joke."

"After all of the struggle that has gone on so far, after all the children who have become ill, after all the workers who have become ill, after numerous studies, and hearings and boards, the Davis government calls for hearings that have no power to call witnesses, no power to force testimony, no power to put anyone under oath."

"What we're saying is that this should have been set up as a Royal Commission with full power to compel testimony, to put witnesses under oath."

The lead companies, who had spent a month dominating the hearings by viciously cross-examining government scientists, engineers and inspectors, turned around and abruptly walked out of the hearings not long before the Canadian Liberation Movement and other concerned groups and individuals were scheduled to present briefs to the Board.

The Board was powerless to stop them. The lead companies and their notorious lawyer Ian Outerbridge knew it. They made the government witnesses accountable for every comma and semicolon but they got out of the hearings when the going was good.

They didn't have to face the questions of the many people they have tried to bully into submission in the last few years.

A number of citizens groups from around the lead smelters and the Toronto Board of Health have withdrawn from the hearings also. Seeing the limitations of the Hearing Board and the tactics of the lead companies, they decided to boycott them. The CLM, on the other hand used the hearings as a valuable public forum to expose the lead companies and the sham of the hearings themselves. The residents groups and the Board of Health might at least have presented their briefs to the Board publicly before withdrawing.

**lead companies afraid of CLM**

The lead companies are especially afraid of the Canadian Liberation Move-

**Continued on page 10**

## Lead companies must pay costs

A year ago, Ontario Supreme Court Justice O'Leary acquitted Canadian Liberation Movement Chairman Gary Perly of charges of contempt of court brought by the lead poisoners. Perly was charged with five other persons from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the Globe and Mail but Perly was the only one acquitted. But as punishment for his involvement, O'Leary ordered Perly to pay the legal costs of the lead companies.

Recently, the fight against lead poisoning gained an important victory as the Ontario Appeals Court substantially altered O'Leary's decision.

The three appeal judges ordered the Canada Metal Company and Toronto Refiners and Smelters to pay Perly's costs!

The victory comes after a year-long struggle both in and out of the courts. The original judgement was made by O'Leary when Gary Perly refused to swear in court that he had nothing to do with the CLM. It denied Perly any of his own costs, and awarded the lead poisoners 80% of the costs incurred in Perly's cross-examination of their bosses and the costs incurred to prevent Perly from cross-examining their notorious lawyer, Ian Outerbridge.

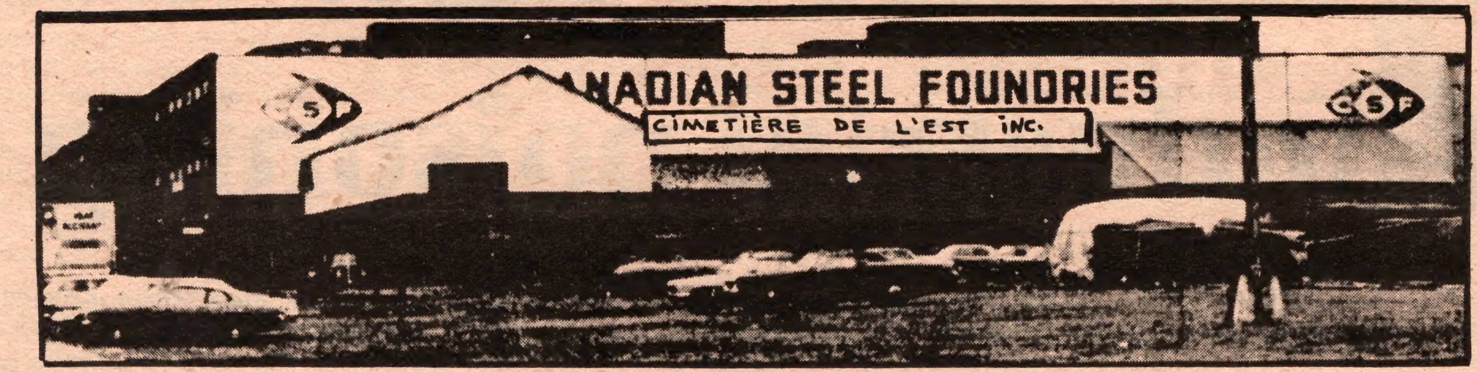
The new decision reverses the first part of O'Leary's decision. Basically this means that both Perly and the Lead Poisoners must pay each others' court costs.

Immediately after the decision, Warren Mueller, lawyer for the lead poisoners spoke to Perly, offering to make a deal to "call it even." Perly refused to make any deal.

"There are a number of questions of principle involved in exactly how much of our costs they should pay," said Perly.

The Appeals Court decision is a great victory because it alters the decision punishing somebody who has been found not guilty of a criminal charge. But it is not enough. The law must be changed so that no person who is acquitted of a charge be assessed costs under any circumstances. CLM has shown that only by a determined fight outside the courts can the people change things inside the courts.●

# The health of the pe



**"Canadian Steel Foundries East-end Cemetery Inc."**
**—Workers' Committee versio of the Canadian Steel Four dries Plant sign.**

# Montreal foundry workers fight deadly silicosis

**Translated from *a nous la parole*, newspaper of the Workers Committee, from Canadian Steel Foundries, Local 6859 of the United Steelworkers of America, May and September 1974.**

**This is the story of the fight of rank and file workers against an alliance of "their" union (the U.S.A.!) and the company for safe working conditions from deadly silicosis.**

**It points out how the medical profession has continually colluded with the company to hide the facts from the workers. And the story shows how the Workers Committee took matters into their own hands by setting up tests and surveys to determine the extent of the danger and to educate the men. As the report says, "no longer are the workers interested in losing their health for the profit of a multi-national criminal company."**

### The company tries to pacify us with token improvements

After the walk-out in October 1973, the company tried hard to develop a climate of good will with the union. In making token improvements they tried to convince us of the advantages of collaboration. However, production and the flow of profits continue to destroy our health. For example, the bosses are always for our wearing caps, masks, etc. — that doesn't bother *them*! But when certain areas of the plant have to be better cleaned in order to give off less dust and vapour, when it's a question of building protective hoods, when it's a matter of changing a machine or a process of production, there the company uses every means in its power to oppose our demands.

The company doesn't want to attack the main problem, silicosis, nor the conditions permitting its existence. On the contrary, the many attempts to break up the union's Safety Committee, and the disciplinary measures taken against those men most active in the struggle for our health, prove the hypocrisy of the company.

### A flurry of activity by the workers

Since the walk-out, the Safety Committee, which is composed of members of the workers' committee, has made more than 218 recommendations for minor improvements around the plant. We have noticed changes in most departments.

Despite all this, what we have been doing remains on the level of patchwork. Most of the changes we have made are minor and inadequate. Over major changes, such as the installation of a ventilation system, we have little real control. We must go further, and take up the struggle to uncover those who are really responsible for the conditions of our health, i.e. the company, the government, and the Steelworkers. We must take real control of our health.

### The workers committee decides to attack silicosis

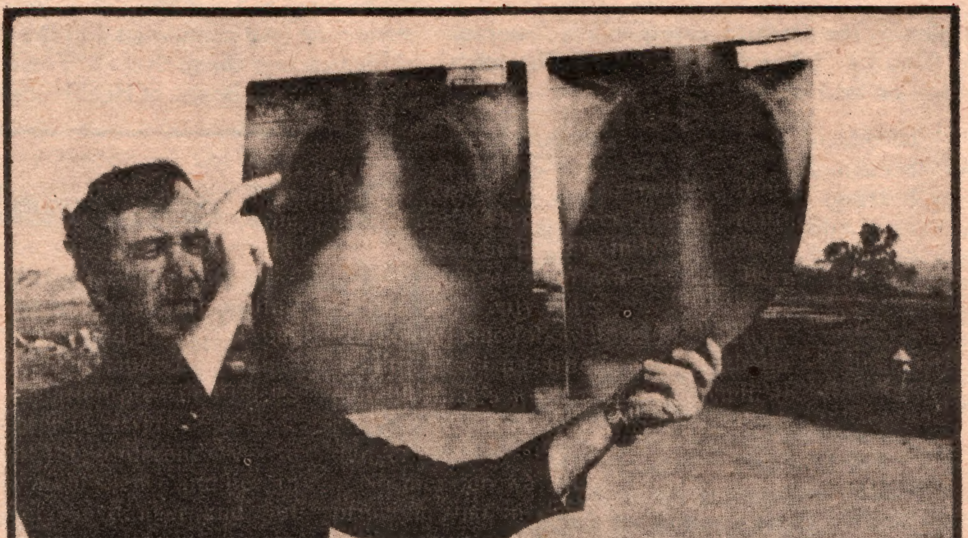
The first step was to learn about silicosis and publish a report explaining its main characteristics.

We then decided to conduct our own medical exams for any worker who wished to volunteer. These consisted of a physical exam by one of the 3 doctors who helped us with the report, and a chest Xray and pulmonary function tests at one of the big city hospitals. Added to that was a detailed medical and occupational history questionnaire, which the wives of committee members helped with.

### Results of the exams

49 men underwent these tests, and of these, about half had been at the plant for over 20 years. Among the 49, there were 5 known cases of silicosis, 12 new cases, 8 questionables, 7 cases of chronic bronchitis (most likely due to smoking) and 17 normals. Most of the new cases of silicosis were among the men who had been at the plant for 20 years or more. However one of these new cases of silicosis occurred in a man who had only been in the plant for 5 years and who had not worked in any kind of a dusty job before.

***What is Silicosis? . . . . . . . . . . . . . see page 10***



On the right, an x-ray of a normal lung; on the left, the effects of pulmonary fibrosis, due to silicosis.

We found that examinations conducted by the company doctor were sporadic at best. The older workers had exams every one to two years. But among workers who had been there less than 15 years, more than 60% had not had annual exams.

### Reactions: The company shows its true colours

We all saw the company tighten up in the face of our claims. They installed a veritable metal fortress around their medical files. Hogue (the management official responsible for safety) made his rounds without our Safety Committee representatives. For accidents, the company imposed a procedure aimed at removing all power of action and questioning from our hands. Lastly, they fired Denis Levesque and two other members of the Safety Committee for no reason whatsoever.

### The company doctor is upset

Like most doctors who are used to making a pile without going too far out of their way for the health of the workers, Dr. Paquet did not appreciate our initiative. He said we should have consulted him first. He said he was as much on the side of the workers as we were. However we pointed out to him that in working for the workers, he was earning $40,000 a year, while we were risking our jobs daily. There's a big difference there!

### The workers' committee clashes with the Steelworkers

The silicosis examinations which we conducted brought out some hostility between the workers' committee and the union executive. After the criminal suit which we brought against the company in March 1974, the former union executive plotted with the Steelworker hacks to have us fired. Following this there was a battle lasting two months, during which time we resisted numerous attacks from the union executive and the Steelworker reps.

What we have to realize is that while many anxious workers were undergoing their medical examinations, while our doctors were subjected to all sorts of pressure, while we were risking our jobs attacking silicosis, all this time Arsenault (on the union executive) and the Steelworker reps were accusing us of stealing medical records from the company and were questioning the reputation of our doctors. Once again, we run into the blatant anti-worker attitude of the Steelworker hacks and their local mouthpieces.

### We gain confidence

Organizing the medical examinati gave us confidence in the possibility taking control of health in our c hands. Judging by the great majority workers who wore our sticker on th hats, the many demands for exami tions, and the many discussions, have succeeded in putting this quest on the agenda. No longer are the work interested in losing their health for profit of a multi-national, criminal co pany.

### The next steps

1. We will continue the examinatio
2. We are preparing a report on Workmen's Compensation Boa We've already started to file clai Without expecting miracles, we do all we can to get the best set ment possible from these clai From talking to guys who h already been before the Board, know this will not be easy. We have to be both seriously prepa and very determined.
3. We are working on some clauses propose for the next bargaini Knowing that silicosis is a dise that can't be cured, our only cha to fight it is to think of ways to vent it and control it. We will hav think of compensation, control c improvements in the plant, ye examinations, etc.
4. We are going to meet with work from other plants to fight indust illnesses.

"A foundry is not a living room"
"Our salaries are OK, after all"
"Things were a lot worse before"

How often do we hear these phra when the topic of silicosis is brou up? We have tolerated these work conditions for so long that we have co to see silicosis as a natural phenome that will always be around.

Meanwhile, the damage contin slowly but surely. The boss gets involved in his little projects to m things better. The union has congres on the question of health and safet work. But it's not words that cha things, and anyway, we don't have means of checking and making sure these plans are being put into actio

Everything is going on around us meetings, in engineers' and lawy offices. But aren't *we* the only o really affected by silicosis? Why put health into the hands of the Steelw ers reps? They were the first ones desert us when we had the work st page. As for the bosses, they have f some of us who defended our righ health.

In the workers' committee here Canadian Steel Foundries we are de mined to change the bad working c ditions. At the inquest into the accid which caused the death of Guilbault of the workers), we were able to pr that the company was guilty of crim negligence.

With silicosis it's been the sa thing. Before accusing those resp sible for this illness we made an in-de study. With the help of doctors sym thetic to our cause, we studied causes of this disease and the diffe ways of preventing it. With lawyers, started a study of the laws pertainin industrial illnesses. Going to the ro of the problem was a job that took several months.●

# ople must come first!

# Johns-Manville workers fight criminal cover-up on asbestos danger

**No longer willing to be silent victims of murder by asbestosis and lung cancer, workers at the Port Union (Toronto) plant of Johns-Manville last week opened up the fight against asbestos danger on two fronts.**

**The local held a press conference to demand more stringent safety standards for asbestos in the plant. And less than a week later, they were responsible for a motion passed by the Scarborough Council demanding the banning of imports of blue asbestos.**

**Soon, Ed Cauchi, Director of Health and Safety for the local will be travelling to Thetford Mines, Quebec to build an alliance with striking asbestos workers there.**

Johns-Manville worker holds a handful of the deadly dust that is ample evidence of the company's poor housekeeping. Prevention is the only cure for asbestosis and the companies must be forced to clean up. Photo Don Hayward.

## Scarborough Council supports ban on blue asbestos

The second front was opened on March 17, at a Borough of Scarborough council meeting. It was a classic example of governments passing the buck, and collaborating with the company to confuse the issue beneath a cloud of lies, innuendo, and irrelevancies.

The motion for debate was that Scarborough ask the Canadian government to ban the import of the extremely dangerous, blue South-African asbestos, and that the provincial government ban its use in plants. (Saskatchewan banned blue asbestos in the second week of March).

This was eventually passed, one of many victories that will be needed. However, there is a danger that by attempting to make blue fibre the only issue, governments will be able to make it appear that this is all that needs to be done. The presentation by the union made it clear that the problem involves all asbestos and how it is handled.

All government representatives who spoke continually stressed that the problem was not in their jurisdiction, that there was not enough information, that they had no power, and some even went so far as to say in effect that it was the stupidity of the workers that was to blame — siding directly with the company.

Representatives from the Ontario government were so arrogant and irresponsible that they refused even to answer questions.

### MOH blames workers

Dr. Abbot, Medical Officer of Health for Scarborough, stated that the greatest hazard was from workers smoking, and that if they didn't want to smoke anymore and wore respirators there would be no problem. It was simply that they didn't want to wear respirators, so they could smoke, and if they died it was their own fault.

Union figures show that many non-smokers at the plant are either sick and on compensation. Some of the dead were also non-smokers.

Mrs. Clarke of the Scarborough Board of Health echoed this condescending attitude to the workers by saying that: "...600 men would only be a ripple on the sea of unemployed", giving weight, in spite of her liberal "we are all responsible" attitude, to the quick and easy (to the politicians) solution of closing the plant.

However, Mrs. Clarke and Dr. French (also of the Board of Health) were the only two government representatives present who called for strong action to force the company and the provincial government to live up to their responsibilities and eliminate the danger.

The greatest insult to the workers at Johns-Manville, and to Canadians in general, was the Yankee, William B. Rietz, specially flown in from the U.S. to represent the company.

### company Yankee lies to meeting

In a presentation of 45 minutes of lies and generalities with no facts, Rietz' basic message was that the company was just great and trying hard to solve what few problems there are. He claimed that there was no need for safer (and more expensive) equipment, such as automatic bag openers, since it was the poor working habits of the workers that caused high fiber levels.

In a further attempt to whitewash the company negligence, Rietz pushed two absolute lies: that the company had a good education programme for the workers on asbestos safety; and that they enforced the regulations concerning wearing respirators that called for a verbal warning, then a written reprimand, and finally, firing for persistent violators.

Charlie Nielson, president of the Port Union plant Local, stated flatly that there had never been an educational programme in the plant and Rietz had just come up to start one. As well, that no one had been reprimanded for not wearing a respirator since the plant opened.

Nielson pointed out that the danger from asbestos had been discovered in Britain 50 years ago, and that Johns-Manville only closed down a mine in Ontario this year after extreme public pressure. That operation exceeded the present standards by six times.

The whole imperialist attitude of Johns-Manville was exposed by Rietz when he said that in the U.S. there is a compulsory and detailed medical examination for each worker and that they are warned of the danger involved with asbestos. This is not done in Canada, after all, only Canadian workers are involved.

There are 40 serious cases of asbestos-related disease at the Port Union plant out of 96 reported in all of Ontario.

Nielson summed it all up when he said that he was: "...disgusted by this lying Yankee coming up here trying to tell Canadians what to do."

After the meeting Ed Cauchi, Director of Health and Safety for the Local, showed *New Canada* a report that documented excessive asbestos levels.

Even the present government regulations are not being enforced. A government report dated Dec. 10, 1974 showed fifteen locations inside the plant that exceed the limits. The Local has stated that based upon most scientific studies, there is no known safe level of exposure, and that the present limit be cut in half to one fiber per cubic centimeter and that an attempt be made to lower this to .5 fibers per c.c.

There is a conspiracy involving the company and the government to hide the problem and danger from the workers and area residents. Workers are never told if evidence of asbestosis or cancer is discovered during medical examinations. They only find out when it is too late.

### Sunnybrook used in coverup

A typical example is the Sunnybrook Hospital. Last year, four men went there for examinations and were given clean bills of health. One of them is now dead.

As Ed Cauchi said: "The province only funds Sunnybrook to keep the truth from the workers."

The government never gives the Union reports on its findings.

People do not have to die, and the plant does not have to shut down. Realistic standards of fiber concentration can be set and enforced, and proper education programmes, working procedures and medical examinations can be implemented.

As usual, this will only happen when the workers in the plant and people in general fight and force the government and the company to live up to their responsibilities ●

## Union local demands more stringent safety standards

On March 14 the union local held a press conference under pressure from the membership, receiving no help from the parent "International" Chemical Workers Union. The Local is now withholding its dues from the U.S. and it appears that the formation of an independent Canadian union, as was attempted in 1971, is now more than ever necessary.

The purpose of the conference was to cut through the wall of silence and lies, to tell the people of the danger and put forward a minimum programme for the company and the government to follow to protect the workers and residents near the plant. It was given wide coverage in the Toronto press.

### companies must be forced

Unfortunately, the union recommendations were only a minimum, and, true to the nature of U.S. unions, stressed company cooperation with labour and government. Past evidence shows that companies only cooperate when forced, and that no matter how good government regulations are, these are only enforced when people demand it.

There was no demand that all information about dangerous conditions, or even routine sampling results, be made available to all workers and the public in general, only that they go to the "proper authorities". This ensures that any future problem can be hidden, in the same way that the danger from asbestos has been hidden for twenty years.

There was no follow-up to the constant monitoring of hazardous areas with the demand that a worker have the right to refuse to work in an area that has become dangerous.

No mention was made of the general principle that in any dispute, the duty rests with the company to prove that an area, process, or material is safe, and has not been harming anyone. Along with this the company would be fully liable for any harm done, even though it had met or exceeded all existing requirements.

Canadian asbestos workers have long been among the most militant workers in the country — the 1949 strike in Quebec is an example.

March 19 of this year, 3,500 workers from 9 companies walked out on strike at Thetford Mines Quebec, demanding an end to conditions that cause silicosis. Only by fighting, and not by putting faith in the cooperation of the government and company, will the murder by asbestos be stopped. ●

# Workers demand prevention – the only effective way to fight silicosis

SILICOSE
Je suis
Je serai

This work is the result of much discussion and research done by the workers' committee with the help of 3 doctors sympathetic to our cause.

Three important statements may be made about silicosis:

1. Silicosis is an incurable disease.
2. Silicosis can be diagnosed sooner than it presently is diagnosed in our factory; i.e., before the symptoms of shortness of breath and cough appear.
3. Prevention is the only way to fight silicosis.

### What is silicosis?

Silicosis is one of a group of illnesses called "pneumoconioses", which are lung diseases caused by breathing in harmful dusts or particles. Examples: asbestosis, berylliosis, coalworkers' pneumoconiosis. All the pneumoconioses have in common:

1. formation of fibrous tissues in the lung which makes it lose its elasticity and its capacity to breathe normally.
2. the beginning of the illness is usually slow.
3. the changes are irreversible.

### Mechanism of action

The smallest particles of silica dust are the most dangerous. Either the big particles don't stay in the air long enough to be inhaled, or they get stuck in the hairs or mucous secretions of the nose. The small particles, on the other hand, drift around easily in the air and can thus be carried long distances away from where they were produced. They penetrate deeply into the lungs where they provoke a fibrous reaction. The lung is normally full of air like a sponge, but in silicosis, many small areas become compact and hard, and may be seen as spots on an X-ray. The lung loses its elasticity and can no longer expand normally. Thus less air can be taken to burn energy for the body's activities.

### Factors causing illness

1. The quantity of silica in the inhaled air. This in turn depends on the type of occupation, preventive measures (such as ventilation), and finally, productivity (mechanisation and speed of work.)
2. The number of years of exposure: this is 10 to 20 years usually, and never less than 2 years except in certain (poorly protected) sandblasters in whom the illness has been acute.
3. Physical effort: the faster the breathing, the more dust enters.
4. The maximum amount of dust allowed each individual. The mechanism of this is not known, but we know that the maximum is less if there is a pre-existing lung disease.

### Symptoms

Symptoms appear late in the course of the disease and often several years after the X-ray becomes abnormal. They are non-specific, i.e. are often present in other illnesses.

1. Shortness of breath while performing an activity which doesn't cause shortness of breath in others of the same age. This symptom is slight at first but may progress till it's present even when the person is sitting quietly in a chair.
2. Cough.
3. General health. This isn't affected at first but later the person may have fatigue, diminished capacity to work, and weakness.
4. Pain in the chest on taking a deep breath may sometimes occur.

The physical examination may be normal or may indicate the presence of lung disease, but it is not specific for silicosis.

If exposure to silica dust is stopped before the symptoms appear or when they are very mild, the illness will not progress. However, if the illness is fairly advanced (that is if the symptoms are quite marked) it will progress even if there is no further exposure to silica. So it's worth the trouble to discover it early.

The following complications of silicosis may occur:

1. Infections (bronchitis, pneumonia)
2. Tuberculosis
3. Heart failure, due to difficulty for the heart to pump the blood through the lungs.

The law prescribes the kind of annual exam which must be done. No test is specific for silicosis, other than a lung biopsy (examination under the microscope, of a piece of lung). However, a biopsy may be falsely negative, and is seldom obtained, as it is too traumatic to the person, requiring an operation or a large needle.

1. X-ray. Silicosis shows as a certain pattern of spots on the X-ray. However, the same pattern may exist in 6 other diseases.
2. Pulmonary function tests. These tests measure the capacity of the lung to breathe, and the measurements will be abnormal before the worker experiences symptoms. Pulmonary function tests are easy to do and don't hurt.

The way these tests should be used is as follows: if a worker who is exposed to silica dust (and this includes everyone at Canadian Steel Foundries) has an X-ray showing any signs of silicosis, he must have pulmonary function tests every year to detect abnormalities before the appearance of symptoms.

To wait for an X-ray full of spots or to wait for the appearance of symptoms is to doom the worker to a severe illness that can only get worse.

### Prevention against silicosis

Prevention is the only effective way to fight silicosis. The following is a brief outline of some of the methods presently known to prevent silicosis.

1. Replacement of the toxic substance. For example, in a foundry, a substance other than sand might be found to make the molds out of.
2. Dust control. This could involve a) general ventilation, and special ventilation of especially dusty areas b) isolation of operations producing the most dust c) frequent use of effective vacuum cleaners on floors. A change in the productive process might be necessary to control dust. For example, in the foundry, pneumatic tools are used to clean the castings, whereas another method would produce less dust.
3. Personal protection. A mask without a fresh air supply is only effective in short-term, very dusty jobs, because if the mask is effective it soon becomes impossible to breathe through it. A mask with a fresh air supply could be used.

### The boss and our health

It's clear that in the case of silicosis there are two levels at which the boss's interests are directly opposed to our health:

1. In holding off as long as possible from telling a guy that he has silicosis and in maintaining the illusion that his health is being regularly followed by the company doctor, the boss thereby prevents a large number of compensation claims from being filed. If these were filed, the boss's payment to the compensation fund would go up.
2. Preventive measures are expensive and would diminish profits.●

MORT LENTE PAR LA SILICOSE
NOTRE PATRON N'EST
SILICOSE
À LA STEEL, FAUT RESPIRER UNE FOIS SUR DEUX

Worker's Committee from Canadian Steel Foundries, Montreal demonstrate against dangerous health conditions in the plant.

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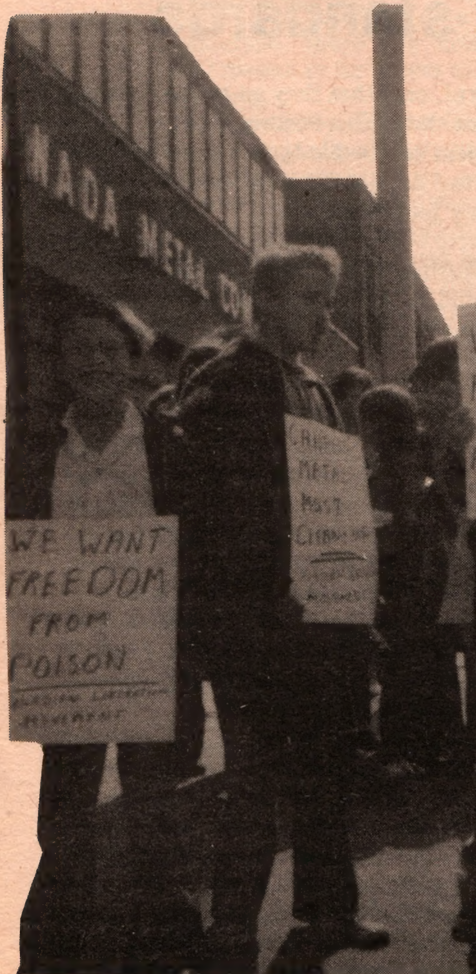
## Environmental Hearing Board

Continued from page 7

ment, whose chairman, Gary Perly, is the only person who has cross-examined these lead company officials. For four days and nights last year, while he was on trial for contempt of court (brought against him by the companies), Perly questioned them on their sworn affidavits, "What I found," Perly told the Board, "Was that there was abolutely no hesitation whatsoever on the part of these companies or their counsel to put forward evidence which, if they didn't know was false, they should have.

"Based on our prior experience with these companies, they are continuing their technique of the big lie. On the one hand, they're absolutely refusing to put forward any evidence on their part, because of course, there really is no such evidence. On the other hand, they spread vicious innuendos, about the evidence which is put forward by practically everybody other than themselves."


WE WANT FREEDOM FROM POISON
WE WANT FREEDOM FROM POISON
WE WANT FREEDOM FROM POISON

### illegal, unethical tests

The Canadian Liberation Movement particularly singled out the illegal and unethical blood lead tests performed upon neighbourhood children in June 1974 by John Horn, a PhD student in Botany, who was paid by Canada Metal and Toronto Refiners and Smelters to do a blood lead study and write a report exonerating them of all blame for lead poisoning.

Passing himself off as a medical doctor, he and his "research team", a nurse from the U.S.A., not registered in Ontario and a graduate student in anaesthesia whose license to practice medicine was not 24 hours old, he defrauded parents into believing the tests were conducted by the Board of Health and sanctioned by the Woodgreen United Church.

The results of the tests on a mere 63 children, Horn claimed, proved Canada Metal was not responsible for lead poisoning, though the average blood levels were higher than normal.

"But you can't call John Horn here," Perly told the Board, "And I tell you, gentlemen, John Horn will not appear before this Board. No way in the world will he ever appear.

"If we had John Horn sitting here under oath, it would take about three minutes to have his alleged "scientific" study so torn to shreds that there would be nothing left of it.

### poisoning workers

As evidence of the class bias of the whole discussion on lead poisoning, Perly cited a letter to the Board by the lead companies, saying they "do not challenge the report nor take any position at all with respect to the criteria to be applied to inplant operations and to be applied as far as the health and safety of the *workers* (emphasis ours) is concerned."

That's because the criteria for in-plant lead levels are virtually non-existent, leading to the "gas chambers" mentioned by the workers!

"There seems to be a feeling," Perly said, "That it's a bad thing to poison the population at large, but it's not so bad if you're only poisoning workers.

"Carelton Smith, president of Canada Metal, admitted under oath one year ago that in January 1974, the air-conditioning system (he said it was a mistake) had been set so that it didn't exhaust the air, but merely recirculated it. And so, there was a tremendous buildup of lead in the air in the plant. That was supposed to have been a mistake, but now they've done it again."

Smith later denied to the press that the fans had been turned off, but no newsmen were allowed to investigate first hand.

Gary Perly presented the CLM recommendations to the Board, emphasizing that the burden of proof must be put upon the companies to prove that they are *not* poisoning, as opposed to the situation now, where those poisoned must prove they are poisoned, and that it originated from the companies.

"The question is — do we have to prove it to the satisfaction of Mr. Ian Outerbridge and the Canada Metal Company and the National Lead Company and the Canadian Pacific Railway or do they have an obligation to show that they're not poisoning people? Surely in the interests of the health of the people of this province, the basic principle should be that any corporation has the obligation to prove it is not endangering health."●

# Canadian Labour Congress submits to U.S. construction unions boycott

**New Canada is sorry that Part III of the series based on the Ontario Report of the Royal Commission on Certain Sectors of the Building Industry into the possibility of criminal activities within the industry will not appear this issue.**

The U.S. construction unions have again shown their strength in bringing the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) to its knees.

On March 6, 1975 it was announced that the President of the AFL-CIO Building Trades Department, Robert Georgine would recommend that the 18 U.S. construction unions branches in Canada end their dues boycott of the CLC.

The boycott, totalling a reported $350,000, threatened the future existence of the CLC, which is dependent upon dues from the U.S. unions which comprise over 60% of its membership. (The CLC was already facing a reported $750,000 deficit this year.)

Georgine's announcement followed meetings with CLC president Joseph Morris and the Yankee construction union presidents in which he was reassured that the CLC was in "good hands" and that the "international" unions had "nothing to fear". Undoubtedly this means that Morris has convinced the U.S. union brass that he's a good stooge and that the CLC has agreed not to enforce the minimal "Canadian autonomy" guidelines passed at its convention last May.

### CLC "autonomy" guidelines

The guidelines set as minimum standards the election of Canadian officers by Canadians, policies to deal with national affairs to be determined by elected Canadian officers and members, and Canadian elected representatives to have authority to speak for the union in Canada.

One of the two additional provisions last May would require international unions to take whatever action is necessary to ensure that "Canadian members will not be prevented by constitutional requirements or policy decisions from participating in the social, cultural, economic and political life of the Canadian community."

A four-step procedure for enforcement, including the ultimate step of suspension of a non-complying union was also adopted.

### hard core of reaction

It was after this convention that the Trades Department cut off their dues payments of 20 cents per member per month.

The AFL-CIO's Building Trades Department representing the U.S. construction unions is the hard core of reaction in the AFL-CIO. The U.S. labour centre was set up to give these unions the balance of power even though they are numerically a minority. AFL-CIO president, George Meany, is from the Plumbers union.

These unions represent the "arist ocracy of labour", the privileged elite among the working class of the imperialist powers who feed off the superprofits from the colonies and act as the imperialists' agents ("labour lieutenants") within the working class.

### arm of U.S. imperialism

This is not the first time that the strong arm of the Building Trades Department has reached into Canada on behalf of U.S. imperialism.

The Trades Department has frequently allied with the Teamsters', the Seafarers' International Union and the corrupt International Union of Operating Engineers (see *New Canada*, February 1975) in forcing the CLC to adopt policies in their interests.

### intervened for SIU

In 1948, the Trades and Labour Congress held a conference supporting the striking members of the Canadian Seamens Union against a raid by the Seamens International Union. The "Roadmen", as full-time Canadian vice-presidents of the U.S. unions (primarily construction unions) were then called, set up a picket line at the entrance to the hall. The Victoria convention of the TLC upheld the Congress' condemnation of the Roadmen "siding with the employers where workers are out on strike". "Co-operation yes, domination, no!"

But the U.S. unions stepped up their pressure, with fourteen threatening to disaffiliate, and on July 3, 1949 the Congress capitulated and suspended the CSU.

During the Carpenters' raid on the International Woodworkers Association (IWA) in Newfoundland in 1960, the Department warned the CLC that if it didn't come up with a solution acceptable to the Carpenters, it might lose all its building trades affiliates. (This followed an heroic province-wide loggers strike which was eventually broken by legislation decertifying the IWA and massive RCMP attacks on the strikers.)

### black day

March 6, 1975 will go down as yet another black day in Canadian Labour history, hopefully one of the last.●

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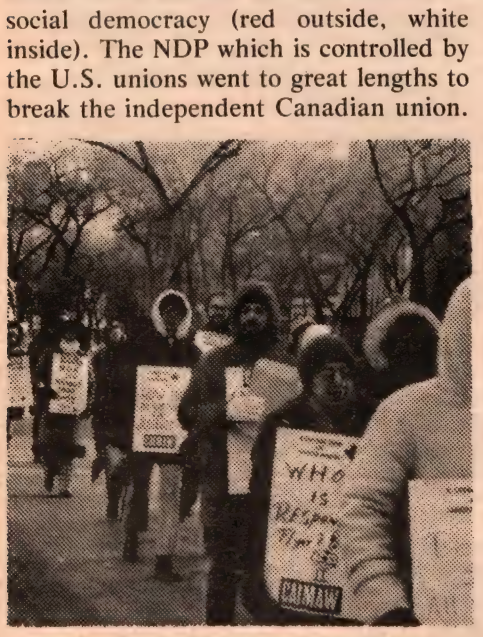
# Winnipeg Flyer Workers win strike but pay dearly for NDP mismanagement, anti-union bias

WINNIPEG — After 3 months of striking, workers at Winnipeg Flyer, owned by the NDP's Manitoba Development Corp (MDC) signed a contract with pay increases between 46 and 62% over three years and a cost of living allowance.

But Flyer's blundering mismanagement clearly prolonged the strike and used it, at the workers' expense to reorganize production in the plant.

Organized by the Canadian Association of Industrial, Mechanical and Allied Workers, CAIMAW, the workers fought the Manitoba NDP government in a strike which showed the true colours of social democracy (red outside, white inside). The NDP which is controlled by the U.S. unions went to great lengths to break the independent Canadian union.



A demonstration outside the Manitoba legislature. Photo: Next Year Country.

### workers locked out

CAIMAW was determined to get a good contract for its members and used the tactic of rotating strikes, starting on October 1, 1974. The next day, the MDC locked them out.

The extent of mismanagement at Flyer shows us why the company wanted the strike. The plant is designed to complete two buses daily, plus four shells which are then sold to other manufacturers for completion. But in the *three months* prior to the strike, *only five buses were completed.* Workers had to stop production to look for parts, dumped in a heap on the plant floor. The workers tell of delays because of incorrect blueprints and drawings, because of wrong components being supplied and installed and because of expensive machinery being bought and sitting around for six months while the Flyer mismanagement tried to get it running.

### viable company

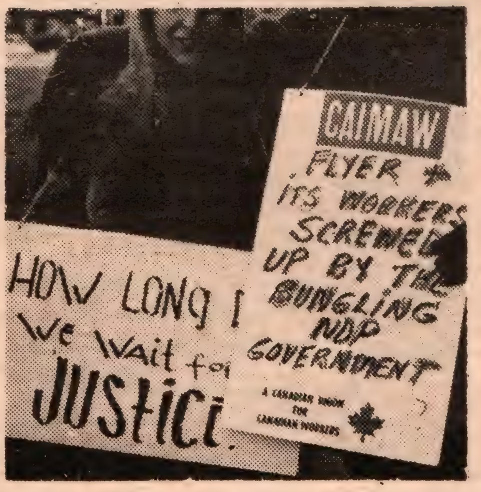
Estimates show that Flyer will lose about $3 million in 1974. With proper management the company could be viable. It now holds orders totalling $48 million and as the only manufacturer of trolley electric buses in Canada and the U.S., cities have been sitting out the strike, unable to take their business elsewhere.

Two years ago, CAIMAW pressured the government to make badly needed changes and nothing was done. And when the company finally took action, it was at the expense of the striking workers.

Early in the negotiations, it became clear that the company was not serious and not interested in a settlement until the plant was reorganized. This was done with the full knowledge and support of the Schreyer government.

And all the worms crawled out of the woodwork.

### Labour minister uses scabs


CAIMAW
FLYER & ITS WORKERS SCREWED UP BY THE BUNGLING NDP GOVERNMENT
A CANADIAN UNION FOR CANADIAN WORKERS
HOW LONG [illegible] WE WAIT for JUSTICE.

The government owns Winnipeg Flyer, but they accept no responsibility for the strike, leaving it to the cabinet-appointed reactionaries to negotiate in "good faith". Photo: Next Year Country.

As workers organized demonstrations, clashed with police on the picket line and a support committee was formed, the NDP minister of labour Russ Pauley threatened to use scabs to break the strike.

After initial weak support, the Winnipeg and District Labour Council bowed to Industrial Association of Machinists (IAM) pressure and withdrew. The Manitoba Federation of Labour took no official position, but this is just the same treatment it gives its own striking affiliates.

This strike has taught us all a lesson. We see the bankruptcy of social democracy in action, as the NDP, supposed party of the workers, came out foaming at the mouth, using scabs, and police on the picket line — in short doing everything necessary to try to break a Canadian union. But most importantly, we see Canadian workers and their Canadian union, CAIMAW, standing up and fighting back.●

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### Native people organise

# Warrior Societies form across Canada

TORONTO — Over 200 supporters attended the public forum held on March 9 at St. Paul's Centre by the newly formed Toronto Warriors Society. Under a banner reading "Native Liberation Through Socialist Revolution" those present heard Louis Cameron speak on the problems and occupation in Kenora, Ontario, and the ongoing struggle for Native liberation. Ginger Cote spoke on the Native People's struggle in Cache Creek, B.C., and Vern Harper described the formation of the Toronto Warriors Society.

### Losing a tribe and gaining a nation

Vern Harper described the Native People's Caravan "successful because the Canadian people got behind it!" He thanked the people who had assisted the caravan, and explained that the use of the riot squad on the demonstrators on Parliament Hill made the Native People stronger. The Native People went to Parliament Hill to voice their dissatisfaction over racism, poverty, mercury poisoning from contaminated fish and all the other evils that our system of government perpetuates. They were met with a brutal attack by the RCMP riot squad. "Not one of the people (MP's) who are supposed to represent us came out", Harper explained.

In an interview later with New Canada Vern Harper described the solidarity gained among the Native People by the battle on Parliament Hill as a step in "losing a tribe and gaining a nation". "The struggle goes on with some losses and some gains — if Parliament Hill was a loss it was even more of a gain. The battle made Native People see each other as a nation and not just separate tribes."

### Warrior Societies arise in times of oppression

The Toronto Warriors Society is one of 10 Warrior Societies across Canada, and more will form as the struggle goes on. The Warriors Societies are autonomous but merge in times of oppression. The Toronto Warriors are making alliances with other Warrior Societies across the country — people in the north supporting the struggles here in the city and vice-versa.

The Warrior Societies use the traditions of the past to build the future. According to the Toronto Warriors' public statement "The Warrior Society arises to protect and serve our communities in times of war and oppression. This is a time of oppression. The Warriors come from among the workers, women and men, young and old. The Warriors have fought against all attempts by foreign powers to destroy our communities and way of governing ourselves. The Warriors have fought in Wounded Knee, Cache Creek, and on Parliament Hill".

"The Warrior Society is part of the movement of our One Nation to combat the policy that dictates and tries to destroy our government by the people for the people. We seek the return of our land. We combat the wretched living conditions of our people."

### Toronto Warriors organizing — planning events

The public forum was the first event the Toronto Warriors have held. In an interview with *New Canada*, spokesman Vern Harper described the Toronto Warriors' purpose as being to "get to know the community, work with the people and to keep cultural awareness alive." There is a large population of Native People in Toronto, some just arrived from the reserves and ill-prepared for city life by the poor education received there, and others like Vern Harper himself, who was raised in Cabbagetown, a working class area in Toronto.

Members of the Toronto Warriors Society at their office in the Donvale Community Centre.

The Toronto Warriors Society plans to fill the need in Toronto for an association of Native People, supplying political, spiritual and cultural needs, "a group where Native women and men of all ages can come together and participate equally in all decisions."

### Warriors anti-imperialist

Current activities of the Toronto Warriors include political education groups. As Vern Harper explained, "to have liberation we must understand the economics and politics of the country. We recognize the capitalist system is the oppressor. We are definitely anti-American imperialism and anti-Soviet imperialism. We saw the government protect the american embassy at the demonstration on Parliament Hill — this shows the state is a lackey for U.S. imperialism — they have to protect their landlord's property. The Warriors encourage their members to attend other political forums and to investigate other political lines. The Native People want to investigate and see for themselves."

Other activities include drumming lessons. Vern Harper explained how the drumming on Parliament Hill served as a rallying point for the Native People and helped supply spirit to the demonstrators. When one demonstrator was dragged off by police a Native woman took his place and continued drumming.

Future plans include a Native film presentation and a powwow in late May. People interested in joining or supporting the Toronto Warriors Society can get in touch with them at 924-3126 or contact them at the Donvale Community Centre●

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# COUNT THE BALLOTS AT CANRON

Continued from page 2

### Bourgeois democracy

The Ontario Labour Relations Board is supposed to provide a "democratic" way for workers to decide which union is going to represent them. But when it comes to Canadian unions the Ontario Labour Relations Board and all other provincial labour boards employ a different kind of "democracy."

This is "democracy" for the corporations (mostly U.S.-controlled), their friends in the U.S. unions, and their agents on the Labour Board. It is democracy for the whole class of the bourgeoisie, the class that owns the means of production, and whose interests are served by the U.S.-run company unions and government bodies like the Labour Board.

But it is dictatorship for the Canadian working class. It is a dictatorship exercised by the bourgeoisie over the proletariat, the working class, the class that actually does the productive work in our society. And because Canada is a colony under U.S. control, this means dictatorship by and for U.S. imperialism. The U.S.-run unions and government bodies like the Labour Boards are key instruments of this oppression.

The bourgeoisie does not exercise this dictatorship openly. It would be political suicide, for example, for any government to openly ban independent Canadian unions.

But in fact, by putting up every roadblock they can, the Labour Board really makes it very difficult for Canadian workers to get the Canadian unions they want. This is one way the Labour Board acts as an instrument of this "bourgeois democracy".

The Canadian Workers Union is hardly the first or the only independent Canadian union to be discriminated against by the Labour Board. In his article, John Lang shows that there has been systematic discrimination against independent Canadian unions by Labour Boards in Ontario and elsewhere in the country.

Lang cites 5 examples, including one involving the Canadian Union of Construction Workers in which Board member Alex Main was the chief organiser for the American unions opposing the application.

Main was the manager of the Toronto Building Trades Council who was directly paying $20 a day to ready-mix cement drivers to refuse to deliver to job sites that were organised by the Canadian Union AT THE SAME TIME as he was sitting on the Labour Board judging the Canadian union's application.

There are many other cases. In the case of the Canadian Union of Operating Engineers (CUOE) application to represent workers at Stanley Steel in Hamilton three years ago, the Board never did open the ballot box or count the ballots, even though the Canadian union had 85% of the workers at the plant signed up as members.

### Canadian unions can win

Despite this arrogant array of forces on the side of Yankee unions in this country, Canadian unions can and have fought and won.

B.C. workers have led the way. At Kitimat, for example, the aluminum smelter workers at Alcan finally got rid of the United Steelworkers of America (USA), and got certification for the Canadian Aluminum Smelter and Allied Workers Union (CASAW), even though the B.C. Labour Board had dismissed their first application without even giving a reason.

They forced the company and the government to recognize their Canadian union through a work-to-rule campaign in the plant, which cut down production, and through organising powerful popular support for their struggle.

At the Harmac mill of Macmillan-Bloedel in Nanaimo, the workers organised demonstrations, motorcades and in-plant actions to force the Labour Board to let them vote for the Pulp and Paper Workers of Canada.

The key thing to understand is that Board hearings are virtually secret trials, even though they are officially open to the public. There is no court reporter, no official record of the testimony, few if any spectators and rarely any press coverage — so Board members usually do whatever they want.

Labour Boards, like courts, behave much better when the people's eyes are upon them. So, in order to win, the Canadian Workers Union and the Canron workers must do everything they can to see that the people of Ontario hear what is happening and call on the support of all progressive Canadians. Now is the time to raise the demand: COUNT THE BALLOTS AT CANRON.

In the long run, what's needed is to do away completely with Labour Board hearings on whether votes should be counted. The best solution is to automatically grant a vote to any union with 35% that asks for one. The ballots should then be automatically counted — as in any municipal, provincial, or federal election — and the winner then certified. Then workers wouldn't have to fight to have their ballots counted!

Unfortunately, such a battle still has to be fought and won at Canron.

THE KEY TO VICTORY IS MOBILISING MAXIMUM SUPPORT FROM ALL PROGRESSIVE CANADIANS FOR THE JUST DEMANDS OF THE CANRON WORKERS.

David Archer's wild behaviour shows that the American unions are terrified of independent Canadian unions in general, and are especially terrified of the CWU. They are afraid of the thousands of Canadian workers who are coming forward to liberate themselves from the clutches of the U.S. imperialist unions.

The U.S. unions have chosen to make Canron a test case. Can progressive Canadians fail to take them up on it? Can we fail to show them whose country this really is?

……………

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. WRITE THE ONTARIO MINISTER OF LABOUR
   - — Demand that the Canron workers' ballots be counted NOW.
   - — Demand that David Archer be removed from the Labour Board and that he be replaced by a CCU nominee.
   - — Write or wire to:

     Hon. J.P. MacBeth,
     Ontario Minister of Labour,
     400 University Ave.,
     Toronto, Ontario.
   - — Send a copy to the CWU and your local MPP.
2. ORGANISE SUPPORT IN OTHER ORGANISATIONS
   - — Get a motion of support passed in your local union, your church, your Legion branch, or whatever organistion you may be a member of.
   - — Send a copy of the motion to the Ontario Minister of Labour.
3. ORGANISE SUPPORT AMONG PEOPLE YOU KNOW
   - — Talk up what's happening at Canron
   - — Ask people you know to write to the Ontario Minister of Labour.
4. WRITE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
   - — Send in letters supporting the Canron workers
   - — Ask others to do the same.
5. SPEAK UP ON PHONE-IN SHOWS
   - — Call up radio phone-in shows to support the Canron workers
   - — Ask others to do the same.
6. DONATE TO HELP THE CWU
   - — Send in a donation to help the CWU finance the necessary struggle.
   - — Their address is:

     Canadian Workers Union,
     P.O. Box 108,
     Station M,
     Toronto, Ontario.
7. COME TO THE HEARING
   - — Show you care
   - — See how they do it — it's open to the public
   - — Bring a friend to:

     Ontario Labour Relations Board
     400 University Ave.,
     Toronto (just S. of Dundas)
     APRIL 24 at 9:30 A.M.

# BOOK REVIEW

# 'Ten Lost Years' or 'Ten Years of Struggle'?

When the people in this Toronto house were threatened with eviction, the neighbours turned out in force to prevent it. Photo: Toronto Sun

On February 2nd, the CBC broadcasted the Toronto Workshop Production of *Ten Lost Years*, based on Barry Broadfoot's book on the Depression in Canada. The play, like the book, is taken word for word from the mouths of Canadians who lived through the Depression.

As Milton Acorn points out in his article "On not being banned by the Nazis" peoples' culture and peoples' history should be written from the point of view of "fight" not "plight". Canadians want to learn positive solutions from the study of history, about the ability of people to eventually overcome all difficulties. In fact, the Depression years were ten years of struggle, not ten lost years.

The major fault of both the book and the play made from it is that they emphasize "plight" instead of "fight". However, there is much of value that we can gain from their documentation of the times.

The ingenuity of the Canadian people surface on every page of the book. One Maritime family, after realizing that the bank had no loan money to keep their farm in operation, opened up a restaurant to make ends meet. Guests sat around a huge table in the kitchen. The ocean supplied the food — father brought it home and mother and the children prepared and cooked and served it. The whole family worked and prospered.

In Toronto a community of university students living in a boarding house, cooperated with the owner, a widow, and with every visit to their homes they brought back produce from their parents farms. These gifts were left even though each student paid regular room and board. They understood the importance of helping each other. Co-operation, this almost untapped natural resource bubbled forward freely from the people.

Only during the Depression could the transportation problem be solved so simply. Every one who bent to this solution benefitted by it. Called, by some wag, the Bennett Buggy, it was nothing more than the family car stripped of its money-gulping engine and neatly fitted up with the family team — of horses! Dobbin pulled the Dodge and helped keep the Thirties rolling. Not exactly a compliment for Prime Minister "Iron heal" R.B. Bennett!

In Regina, marchers on the On to Ottawa Trek were met by their leaders, returning from an unsuccessful meeting with Prime Minister Bennett in Ottawa. Discontent flared when the police tried to prevent a public meeting, and in the riot that followed a policeman was killed and many police and marchers were injured. Photo credit Saskatchewan Archives.

### ten lost years — for who?

The ten years of the Depression, 1929-1939 *were* lost — to certain social classes. The American imperialists were jumping out of windows on Wall Street, their fortunes made from the labours of Canadians and the people of the world were being lost overnight.

But for Canadians, in particular the working class, these were ten years of hard bitter class struggle.

The Bennett government in Ottawa had established camps across the country for single unemployed men. The men received room and board and twenty cents a day. In return, they performed mostly useless time-consuming jobs thought up for them by the ex-representatives of National Defence. Their overseers were Army men of old standing.

The purpose of these concentration camps — that's what they were — was to remove these angry and restless young men (potential revolutionaries) from the urban centres, and place them out of sight in camps designed to squelch any sign of natural human indignation. In other words, to avoid a revolution in Canada.

### on-to-Ottawa trek

Across the country the men became fed up with the camp system and organized the On-To-Ottawa Trek to pressure the government into action. The Trek ended in Regina with a showdown between the RCMP, acting on government orders, and the Trekkers. Regardless, some of the men made it to Ottawa.

The Canadian people learned many important lessons from the political struggles of the Depression. The importance of good leadership, the necessity of *fighting* for demands, and the value of organizing on a mass basis, for example.

Even Barry Broadfoot admits, in the second chapter of his book, "Remember, in some ways it was a tremendously exciting time. People found strengths they did not know they had . . . Yes, it was a battle in that sense and the Canadian nation came out of it stronger than before".

The recollections of the Canadian people contained in the book and in the play are in direct contradiction to the title "Ten Lost Years". Only the imperialists and their Canadian stooges want us to "lose" these years. They know, as we know, that many valuable lessons are to be learned from the Depression in our struggle for independence and socialism today.●

M.W., Toronto

**Ten Lost Years 1929-1939** by Barry Broadfoot, 390p Doubleday $9.95. (Wait for the paperback edition, soon to be published by General Publishing!)

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# Cambodian liberation near

**Continued from page 1**

provinces completely since the start of the year, controls large areas of other provinces, and is now approaching Saigon.

The struggle of the Cambodian people has also exposed the Soviet Union for what it is: a social-imperialist (socialist in words, imperialist in deeds) superpower. Up until the last week of March it maintained diplomatic relations with the Lon Nol clique. It has never given a cent in aid to the Cambodian people. On the other hand, the socialist countries like China, Albania, and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) have always supported the Cambodian people in their struggle. We can see who the real anti-imperialists and socialists are, those who support the Cambodian people's struggle.

### Solidarity

The victory of the Cambodian people will be a victory for the anti-imperialist forces around the world. Their victory will aid us in our own struggle to free Canada from US imperialism. The defeat of US imperialism in Cambodia will weaken it everywhere.

The Canadian Liberation Movement salutes the heroic struggle of the Cambodian people and wishes them a speedy victory.●

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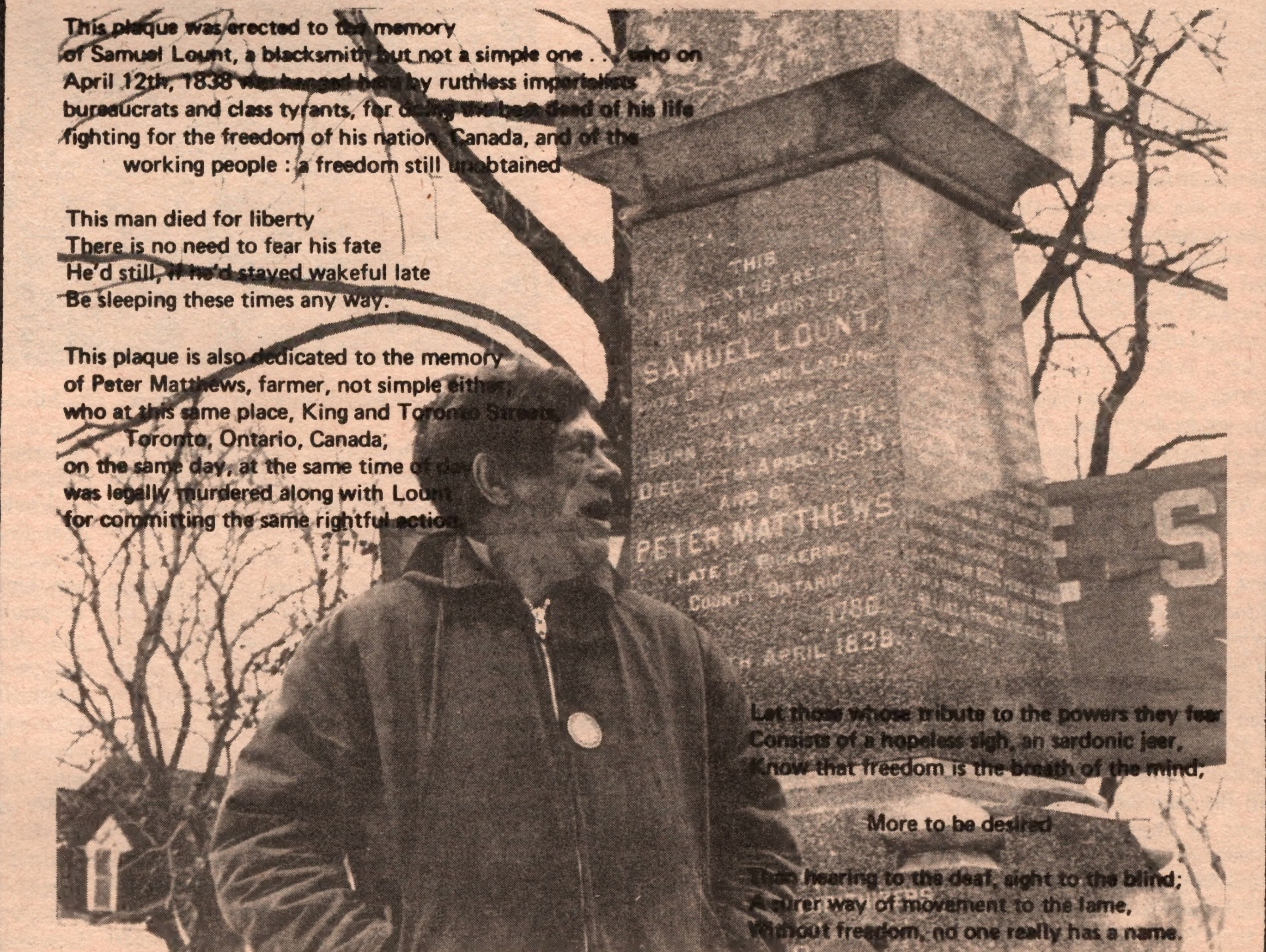
## Proposed Dedication for a Monument to Lount and Matthews

### by Milton Acorn



This plaque was erected to the memory
of Samuel Lount, a blacksmith but not a simple one . . . who on
April 12th, 1838 was hanged here by ruthless imperialists
bureaucrats and class tyrants, for doing the best deed of his life
fighting for the freedom of his nation, Canada, and of the
working people : a freedom still unobtained

This man died for liberty
There is no need to fear his fate
He'd still, if he'd stayed wakeful late
Be sleeping these times any way.

This plaque is also dedicated to the memory
of Peter Matthews, farmer, not simple either,
who at this same place, King and Toronto Streets,
Toronto, Ontario, Canada,
on the same day, at the same time of day
was legally murdered along with Lount
for committing the same rightful action.

Let those whose tribute to the powers they fear
Consists of a hopeless sigh, an sardonic jeer,
Know that freedom is the breath of the mind;

More to be desired

Than hearing to the deaf, sight to the blind;
A surer way of movement to the lame,
Without freedom, no one really has a name.

# Toward a People's Art

**"Dare to struggle! Dare to Win!"**

# The Achievement of Emily Carr

## Part II

**Canadian women are increasingly recognized as among our best young artists. However, the spirit and achievement of Emily Carr are an inspiration not only for women everywhere but for all Canadians.**

**This description and analysis of her work after 1915 is reprinted from** *The History of Painting in Canada, Toward a People's Art* **by Barry Lord, NC Press Ltd., 256 pages, $6.95 paper.**

Help came from the native people. Other visitors to their villages, like the world-famous Québécois anthropologist Marius Barbeau, admired their culture and wanted to document it. The trouble was that many of these scholars worked for museums, in the U.S. and Europe as well as the few from Canadian institutions, and they were constantly offering to pay the hard-pressed natives for the best examples of their art. This may have helped to preserve the painted wood carvings, which quickly deteriorated in the heavy rains of the Pacific coast, but it also meant that the natives were being deprived of the best examples of their work.

With the economic basis for their culture ripped away by the cannery owners, lumber companies and missionaries, even the Kwakiutl recognized that their arts were likely to die with the last of that generation of carvers. These were also the years when the RCMP was raiding illegal potlatches and confiscating hundreds of objects for the museums in Toronto and Ottawa.

The native people could ill afford to lose the few precious examples left to them. So they remembered this friendly woman who had shown her respect for their culture by recording it in her paintings, leaving their villages as she found them. "*Klee Wyck*", they called her, "the laughing one." Although often uncommunicative with the U.S. and European anthropologists, they told the Québécois Barbeau about her.

In 1915 Barbeau visited this eccentric landlady in Victoria, and bought two of her 1912 paintings, which he subsequently used to illustrate his publications on the native arts. In 1921 he brought her paintings to the attention of Eric Brown, the director of the National Gallery. But Brown was busy at that time with the Group of Seven. It was another six years before he got around to organizing an exhibition of native west coast art, and decided to include 26 of Emily Carr's 1912 paintings in the show. Fifteen years after she had painted them, her documentary pictures were at last to be seen in the context of the native arts that had given her inspiration. Their content had made them important.

Brown found that this isolated onetime artist was completely unaware of the accomplishments of Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven, so he suggested she read Fred Housser's recently published book on the "National Art Movement." He also arranged for a railway pass so that she could come east for her exhibition, and made sure that she met members of the Group of Seven while in Toronto.

This 1927 exhibition and her encounter with the Group of Seven, especially Lawren Harris, formed a decisive turning point in Emily Carr's career. Inspired anew by the example of their national landscape art, and by the sight of her own paintings in the company of powerful examples of native art, she returned to the west coast determined to go back to the native villages and paint again. But this time she had an even deeper commitment, a far richer understanding of what she was doing. After looking at the paintings that A.Y. Jackson had made from his 1926 trip to the Skeena River villages of northern B.C., she commented:

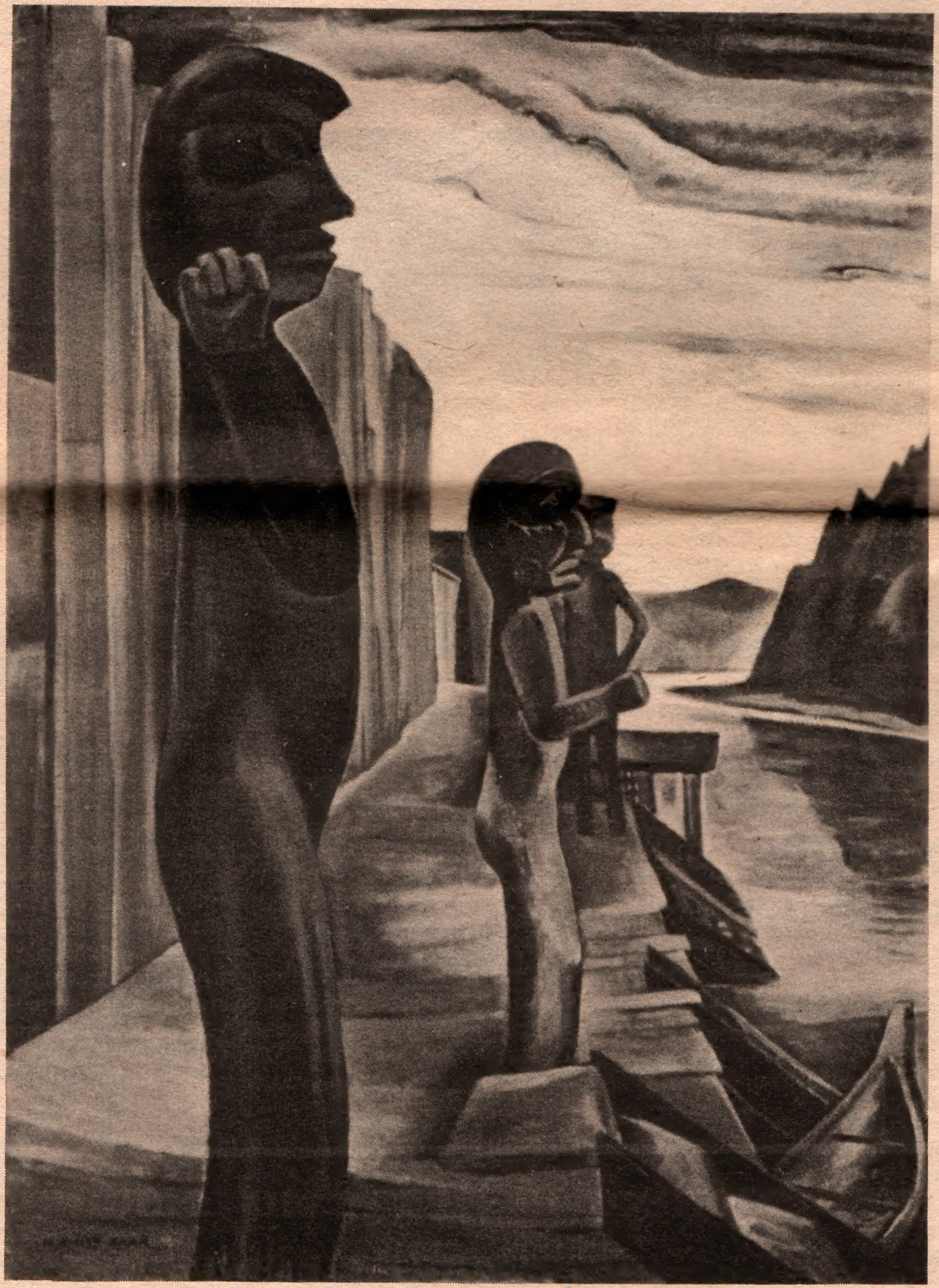
> *"I felt a little as if beaten at my own game. His Indian pictures have something mine lack–rhythm, poetry. Mine are so downright. But perhaps his haven't quite the love in them of the people and the country that mine have. How could they? He is not a Westerner and I took no liberties. I worked for history and cold fact. Next time I paint Indians I'm going off on a tangent tear. There is something bigger than fact: the underlying spirit, all it stands for, the mood, the vastness, the wildness, the Western breath of go-to-the-devil-if-you-don't-like-it, the eternal big spaceness of it. Oh the West! I'm of it and I love it."*

This is an enthusiastic description of the difference between *documentary realism* and *social realism.* Emily Carr's 1912 paintings were an extension of the documentary realist tradition in Canadian art, reaching all the way back to the painting of the Micmac native people that is attributed to Elizabeth Ladds (Colour Plate IV), and the early sketches of prairie settlers by Peter Rindisbacher. Now, building on the achievement of the Group of Seven painters, Emily Carr was ready to go forward to "something bigger than fact." She saw this as flowing from her "love . . . of the people and the country . . ." The "underlying spirit" that she wanted to express on canvas came to her not just from the land, but from the people who live on it.

*Blunden Harbour* (Fig. 161) is one of the major works she was able to achieve with this new insight. It is a moving depiction of the dock of a Kwakiutl village. Three life-size carved and painted human figures stand on the wharf, two looking out across the inlet, one at the end staring straight toward us, hands on hips. The grandeur and dignity of these massive statues are enhanced by their simplified setting of posts and planks, the ladders to the sea, and the trees on the mountain shore opposite, as well as by the decisive modelling of the monumental sculptures themselves. A rich, expressive light breaks behind the mountain to the right, fills the sky with its brilliance, sets up dynamic rhythms of shadow along the edges of the clouds, highlights the shapes of the carvings, illumines the reflection of the mountain in the inlet, and even spills into the canoe in the lower right corner. This is a masterful drama staged with completely assured control of the power of light and darkness to reveal the artist's meaning.

That meaning is clear. These austere figures, full of dignity, show us the strength of the native peoples, their ability to fight back. They stand as guardians on the dock, an identification of this village and a warning to unfriendly visitors. The rage of the native people at the destruction of their proud civilization can be sensed in the raised fist closest to us, and in the determined expression on the three carved faces. Especially in the powerful head in the foreground, dark against the sky with the lines of the clouds crackling away from it as if to manifest its strength, Emily Carr has used the dramatic sculptural shapes of the Kwakiutl to show the might of the native people.

Yet we also see that these figures are only wood. Effective guardians in the past, they cannot prevent the oppression of the native people by their present enemies; so majestic here, they can easily be stolen away, paid for by only a tiny fraction of their real worth. The rapidly changing light, the very stillness and the great sense of space around these figures are all charged with the threat to the civilization they represent. The painting strikes at the heart of the struggle going on in Blunden Harbour, but proclaims that the strength of the native people is primary.



*Blunden Harbour,* Emily Carr, 1928-30, oil, 51" x 37".

*Blunden Harbour* has been called an *expressionist* painting, because it uses strong contrasts of light and vigorously modelled shapes to a dominant expressive purpose. It shows the influence of Lawren Harris, and of a U.S. expressionist painter, *Mark Tobey*, whom Emily Carr invited over to Victoria from Seattle to give lessons in her studio for a three-week period in 1928.

But *Blunden Harbour* is not a distortion of reality, as so many expressionist paintings are. Its painter has employed Tobey's lessons in interlocking form only because they help her to reveal the meaning she senses in her subject matter. And although the awesome stillness of Harris's Lake Superior paintings has obviously impressed her, so has the feeling for social reality that she must have sensed in his Cape Breton and Halifax paintings of a few years before. *Blunden Harbour* is essentially social realist in character.

In 1930 she exhibited with the Group of Seven, and also in Victoria and Seattle. The following year she went east again, and renewed her acquaintance with Harris and other members of the Group. The example of their landscape art spurred her on this visit to turn her attention to the specific qualities of the west-coast landscape she knew so well. "Too bad that West of yours is so overgrown, lush–unpaintable," A.Y. Jackson had written her. When she returned, she proved him wrong.

Unable to afford canvas or even the sketching panels that the Group of Seven had used, Emily Carr hit on an expedient that served her very well. Brown butcher paper, the kind she got the meat wrapped in when she went shopping, was cheap, plentiful, and light to carry in quantity. By thinning her oil paints with gasoline, another inexpensive and readily available material, she was able to make the pigment adhere to this paper. Her new materials encouraged a looser, more sweeping motion with her brush, entirely suitable to the dynamic qualities of the western rain forest that she wanted to express.

We can see the effects of this technique in her canvases of the 1930s, such as her 1936 painting *Reforestation* (Colour Plate XII). The green and yellow strokes of the long grass surge in waves up to the darker green, black and grey-purple trees behind, their boughs brushed in with a free swipe of the brush that conveys the vitality of their verdant growth. The trees to the left in this painting in the middle distance are typical of the more solid, structured

## Leonard Hutchinson paints the Canadian people at work

On March 7, well over 100 people crowded into the Women's Union Building at the University of Toronto to meet Leonard Hutchinson or to renew an old acquaintance with this famous Canadian artist.

The occasion was a celebration to mark the publication by NC Press of *Leonard Hutchinson, People's Artist, Ten Years of Struggle, 1930 to 1940.*

Hutchinson was a pioneer in the field of producing woodcut prints in Canada, yet this is the first collection of his powerful work ever done in book form.

Hutchinson originally switched from painting to print making since a hundred or more prints can be drawn from a woodcut allowing many, many people to own and enjoy original works.

During the programme Barry Lord explained that Leonard's work was a fine example of new democratic art in Canada and pointed out how often it expressed the fighting spirit of the people struggling to survive the '30s.

Leonard explained that he had been inspired by the example of the famous 19th Century Dutch painter, Vincent Van Gogh. Van Gogh had gone out to the mines and painted the miners at their work.

Hutchinson, in turn, had gone out into the streets and fields of Hamilton and southwestern Ontario and painted the Canadian people at their work — farmers, tobacco workers, fishermen, steelworkers.

## Leandre Bergeron speaks of growing workers struggle in Quebec

TORONTO: On Feb. 28, a public meeting was held at the University of Toronto by NC Press and the Canadian Liberation Movement to launch the recently released book *Why There Must Be A Revolution in Quebec*, by Leandre Bergeron. Bergeron is the author of *The History of Quebec, A Patriote's Handbook*, which was the first real people's history and sold over 250,000 copies in English and French. Bergeron spoke along with Ralph Ellis, the chairman of the Hamilton Committee for Independent Canadian Unions, and an organiser for the Canadian Workers Union. Ellis spoke of the general need for Canadian unions. He commented on the struggle of the workers at the Burlington Golf and Country Club who have been locked out by the country club since last November when they organised into the CWU. (For more information see page 5).

Bergeron related the struggle of the workers in Ontario to the struggles of the Quebecois workers. He stressed the increasing awareness and militancy of the Quebecois working class. He spoke of the victory of the Canadian Gypsum workers in their 2 year struggle and the tremendous solidarity of all the workers in Joliette and in other Gypsum plants. Most importantly he stated this solidarity will continue after the strike. He stressed the importance of this solidarity between Canadian and Quebecois workers as well, against our common enemy U.S. imperialism. The meeting ended with a fighting spirit, as Bergeron led everyone in a song they often sing on the picket lines in Quebec —

Solidarite mes freres,
Solidarite mes freres,
Solidarite mes freres,
Ensemble nous vaincrons!

## "First Bank" Pres. still a Yank

Remember that the new president of the Bank of Montreal, William D. Mulholland, is a U.S. citizen? (New Canada, January, 1975) The following appeared in a column in the Toronto Star by Richard Gwyn, March 20, 1975.

"Those Canadians who took for granted that the heads of their most important financial institutions were required, by law or by common sense, to be Canadians will have to hang onto their illusions for a while longer.

William D. Mulholland, recently appointed president of the Bank of Montreal, and before that president of Brinco, is an American citizen. In January, Mulholland became eligible, after five years' residence, to become a Canadian. He doesn't plan, though, to jump over the wall just yet.

"If I stay in this country I certainly would intend to become a Canadian citizen," Mulholland told me. Before doing that, however, he wants to make sure "the Bank of Montreal and I are happy with each other."

Mulholland's probably looking to move onto a higher post in the Morgan financial empire than a lousy colonial bank. We don't want Mulholland to become a Canadian citizen; Yankee Go Home!

## Freeze in the dark

Those Yankee oilmen who brought us "Let those eastern bastards freeze in the dark" last year have come up with yet another piece of imperialist humour.

Canada has probably the most gutless resource policies in the world. Nevertheless our enraged Standard Oil (and other) benefactors have been removing their drilling rigs from the prairie provinces to protest our government's feeble steps to keep a few crumbs of oil profits in Canada.

Trucks towing the rigs back over the U.S. border were spotted carrying signs saying "Last one out, turn off the lights in Calgary".

Estimates of the number of U.S. citizens living in Calgary, exploiting our fast-dwindling oil reserves, range as high as 25%. Its long past the time when we should have sent those Yankees and their sick humour home.●

## Hart House Art Gallery Boycott Continues

ARTISTS
BOYCOTT
HART
HOUSE

### 30 Artists hold ribbon-tying ceremony at the University of Toronto

**Press Release from Canadian Artists' Representation, Ontario, March 22, 1975**

TORONTO — Thirty (30) artists held a ribbon-tying ceremony in front of Hart House at the University of Toronto on Friday, March 21st in celebration of their 6 week old boycott of the *Hart House Art Gallery.*

The artists representing 550 members of *Canadian Artists' Representation, Ontario* paraded with day-glo placards in front of Hart House and tied off the entrance with a red ribbon.

At issue is the payment by Hart House of exhibition rental fees to artists exhibiting in its gallery. After four years of talks, Hart House agreed a few weeks ago, after the boycott was in effect, to pay the proposed minimum fee of $302. for a one-person show but stated that they would no longer take responsibility for paying shipping and publicity, leaving these costs to the artist to bear.

The payment of exhibition costs in addition to an exhibition rental fee to the exhibiting artist is an established practice among public and university galleries throughout Ontario and Canada and is endorsed by the Ontario Arts Council, the Canada Council, and the Ontario Association of Art Galleries as well as prominent institutions such as the National Gallery of Canada, the National Museums, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the London Art Gallery, the Hamilton Art Gallery, the Agnes Etherington Art Gallery, the Art Gallery of Guelph University and the Gallery of the University of Western Ontario.

The day before the demonstration representatives of C.A.R.O. met with student members of the Hart House Art Committee and the Warden of Hart House, Dr. J.G. Lengelle.

During discussions the students claimed that Programme Advisor, Alan Toff neglected to inform the Committee of the fees issue; and they also indicated that most of the Committee members have not heard of C.A.R.O. until the boycott was announced, so that they were not aware that artists had any grievances with the gallery.

After the meeting C.A.R.O. spokesman Ray Woodworth stated that the artists felt they were being challenged unfairly over the question of whether or not the artist should be paid as all the other professionals connected with the exhibition are. "The day has long gone since artists were expected only to be grateful for the 'privilege' of exhibiting and to refrain from mentioning money."

The artists filed through the corridors of Hart House and into the gallery where the works of a Nova Scotia artist were on exhibition. As this particular show originated with an East coast gallery the exhibition fees were already paid. Just a year ago a national boycott of 5 Halifax galleries was staged by C.A.R.O, successfully establishing the principle of fees to artists in that area.

C.A.R.O. will be holding a general membership meeting in Toronto in May and although it is expected that the Hart House boycott will be over by then the artists claim that about 400 of their members will be gathering to illustrate their strength.●

## The Achievement of Emily Carr

Continued from page 14

forms she favoured earlier in her landscape art. But the freer brushing of the trees in the centre and on the right are more characteristic of the expression she finally arrived at. A swirl of light leaps from the yellow highlights in the grass through the conical shapes of the trees to the deep blue-purple whirl of the sky, animating the whole picture.

In paintings like *Reforestation*, Emily Carr extended our national landscape art to the Pacific. Like Tom Thomson in Algonquin Park, Lismer and Varley in Georgian Bay and J.E.H. MacDonald in Algoma, she had found the way to express the unique characteristics of a region of Canada. But she did more than that. Even in the most isolated locations, which she reached with the aid of the trailer she had bought in 1933, she almost always makes evident the presence of people working and living in the land. In this case it is the growth of the young trees in the middle ground, sprouting up to replace those that have been cut down for human use; but even when her subject is not specifically *Reforestation*, her late paintings throb with her awareness of the process of life using up the materials of nature, and their rebirth. Like the native people, she sees the forest as a place of human habitation to be constantly replenished, not as a static backdrop to be assembled into a picture; her paintings are in every way the exact opposite to the old British tradition of the picturesque. At last our land is fully grasped as the home of our people.

"Seventy years had maimed me, loggers had maimed the clearing," she wrote of a similar painting site near Victoria. In 1937 she suffered the first of a series of heart attacks, only one year after she had finally been able to afford to sell her rooming house. Increasingly confined to bed in later years, she responded characteristically by launching into a whole new field of struggle: she began to write. In 1941 she published *Klee Wyck*, a collection of stories recalling her life among the native people, for which she received the Governor-General's Award. *The Book of Small*, recollections of her Victoria childhood, followed, along with *The House of All Sorts*, in which she drew on her life as a landlady. She even based a small book on her stay in the British sanatorium. She was transforming every moment of her life, including her worst experiences, into a triumph of creative expression. Her own life had become a constant process of regeneration. Towards the end, unable to paint at all, she still worked relentlessly on her autobiography, *Growing Pains*, which finally appeared in 1946, a year after her death. Since then her long and detailed diary has been added to her list of publications.

The prose in which she wrote these books is simple and to the point. It makes indelibly clear that her art was based on her love for people, especially the native tribes, as well as her fondness for animals and all living things, and her patriotic pride in being a western Canadian. Her paintings and books stand as a magnificent contribution to Canada's new-democratic culture: they are national, upholding the dignity and independence of the native people, and bearing the unmistakable stamp of the Canadian west; they are scientific, being based on objective reality and the processes of change she found in nature and society; and they are democratic. In 1932 she had tried in vain to establish a "People's Art Gallery" in Victoria. Six years later, when she finally triumphed in Vancouver with an exhibition that sold a phenomenal 11 paintings, she wrote, "What made me so pleased about it was the fact that I had been able to make their own Western places speak to them." Emily Carr makes our places "speak" for all of us.●

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